THE

PALL MALL GAZETTE

An Evening Newspaper and Review.

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OUR FETICHES OF FOOCHOW.

THE Special Commissioners have lost no time in preparing for their inquiry. They have all procured copies of "Parnellism and Crime," and have mastered its contents. The effect has been, if we may judge from what they did yesterday, to convince them that they have practically only to try a case of WALTER versus Mr. PARNELL and Others. After a preliminary private consultation they communicated with the solicitors for both sides—that is to say, with Messrs. LEWIS and LEWIS—representing Mr. PARNELL and the Irish M.P.'s against whom charges are brought—and with Mr. SOAMES, the solicitor for the *Times*. They do not seem to have communicated with any other persons. Nor, indeed, is it easy to see with whom they could communicate, save with the two parties to the suit. The general public has no *locus standi* in the case, neither has the Government. The only other persons "entitled to appear before us" would be the representatives of Mr. DAVITT. Mr. EGAN and other Irishmen assailed by the *Times* who are not members of Parliament are not likely to concern themselves with the Commission, at least in its earlier stages. At first, at all events, the case will be simply a prosecution by the *Times* of Mr. PARNELL and his fellow members. The burden of proof will lie with Mr. WALTER, and we wish him joy of his task. The judges, being practical men, will go to the gist of the case at once, and we suspect that both the friends and the foes of the litigants will be considerably astonished to discover how soon the gaseous contents of "Parnellism and Crime" will be condensed down to a few drops of positive statement, which the *Times* will have to prove or stand condemned. There will be some considerable difficulty, we suspect, in securing the admittance of the forged letters as evidence. As Mr. PARNELL denies that he ever wrote them, and as the *Times* refuses to produce evidence as to how they came into its possession, this "secondary evidence" may never be admitted at all before the Commission as part of the case against Mr. PARNELL. In order to bring it before the Commission it may be necessary for Mr. PARNELL to make a charge against the *Times*, and even this charge the judges may refuse to entertain, on the ground that they have to try the *Times*' charges against Mr. PARNELL, not Mr. PARNELL'S charges against the *Times*. The Special Commissioners will have to strain judicial rules very severely before letters of unknown origin repudiated as forgeries by their alleged writer are to be accepted on their own merits as evidence against the accused.

But supposing that everything succeeds. Supposing that the *Times* proves its case up to the hilt, and demolishes Mr. PARNELL and Mr. PARNELL'S friends, what forwarder would our Unionists be? We are willing to raise the question out of charity to the unfortunates at Printing House-square, whose spirits just now must be particularly low. Supposing Mr. PARNELL ruined, would the Union be stronger? For the moment of course there would be a shriek of delight, a wild and intoxicating sense of victory, but afterwards? The idea that we can get rid of Irish disaffection by smashing the men who are its spokesmen is one of the most inveterate delusions of the party of ascendency. It has survived centuries of experience. We have hanged, drawn, and quartered the PARNELLS of preceding generations. We have shot them like vermin, imprisoned them, banished them, tortured them, and all to what end? What the gallows failed to do, the Special Commission will hardly succeed in effecting. Mr. PARNELL and his fellow members are only the outward and visible sign of the discontent occasioned by a system of government based upon the habitual and persistent disregard of the necessities of the Irish people.

There is a charming story brought by the last Chinese mail which illustrates this curious kind of superstition so admirably that we cannot resist the temptation to quote it here. The story is as follows :—

A curious case of punishing the gods is reported from Foochow. The idols in a certain temple in that city were those appealed to by persons who desired to be revenged on their enemies. They were supposed to cause death to those against whom prayers to them were directed. Recently the Tartar military commander died suddenly, and the idea got abroad among the people that he had been slain by the idols in question. The Viceroy of the province hearing this at once gave orders that they were to be arrested and punished. The Prefect was instructed to see the decree carried out, and, armed with the Viceroy's warrant, he went to the temple and had fifteen idols arrested. They were of wood and about 5 feet high. Before being brought for judgment before the Prefect their eyes were all put out, so that they should not see who was their judge, and be able to trouble him either here or hereafter. After a full investigation a report was sent to the Viceroy, who gave orders that the idols should be beheaded, their bodies cast into a pond, and their temple sealed up for ever to prevent them from troubling the peace of the town in future.

There is not a Western who will not laugh at this grotesquely pathetic story of the arrest and execution of these poor fetiches of Foochow. But have we not our own analogues to these idols? Every one knows that it was not the wooden images who killed the Tartar commander. Death met him in obedience to some natural law, which the Chinese, preoccupied with their fetiches, never took the trouble to notice. But the populace must have a sacrifice, and so the poor gods were beheaded. The life of the next Tartar military commander will not be a whit more secure now that the idol temple is sealed up for ever, but for the moment the Viceroy and the Prefect and the mob feel—well, they feel as happy as Mr. WALTER, Mr. BUCKLE, and our Unionists would feel if the Special Commission were to find against Mr. PARNELL and his fellow members. These are for the moment our fetiches of Foochow, but fortunately it is impossible to begin their execution by putting out their eyes. They are tolerably wide awake, as the *Times* and its backers will soon discover to their cost.

SWAN-UPPING ON THE THAMES.

AN INTERVIEW WITH A SWAN-HERD.

IF the figure of the Evil One is ever reflected on the mental horizon of the swans on the Thames, it takes undoubtedly the shape of the waterman who goes under the name of Swan Marker. Every year at the beginning of August a party of these swan markers, who also claim the title of swan-herds, set out in a flotilla of six boats, within which are hidden strange-looking hooks, devised for the capture of such of the swans as try to escape or show fight on the approach of the enemy. The "swan voyage" begins at London Bridge, and extends to where the green river banks at Henley offer a peaceful home for the more retiring of the swan families. At present the swans who have their home on the Thames—except the few which are the property of private owners whose estates border the river—belong either to the Queen, to the Vintners', or to the Dyers' Company, and in order to assign their own to the various owners, all the cygnets are marked on their upper mandible with a different mark, while, with a view to prevent them from taking French leave, they are also "pinioned" in a way which makes it for ever impossible for them to fly any considerable distance. Mr. W. T. Abnett, the well-known barge master and waterman at Hampton Court, who for the last twenty-three years has been swan marker to the Worshipful Company of Vintners, has recently completed this year's swan voyage, and it was at his house that our representative obtained the following interesting information with regard to the swan-upping, or swan-hopping, into which the old term has been corrupted. Mr. Abnett, writes our representative, was sitting at his cottage door, unable to move, having been attacked by that arch-fiend of watermen, the rheumatic gout.

"So you have just finished your annual voyage," said our representative. "How long did it take you to complete your task, and how many swans did you honour with your visit?"

"It takes four days, and this year we have counted 343 swans. Last year we had 392, and I think we shall have about an equal number this time, when they are all marked. It is sometimes impossible to get at them all while we are on our voyage, as some of the birds go up into the back waters and side streams where we can't get at them by boat. As a rule we come across them afterwards when they come down to the river."

"Do the swan markers of the various owners go separately in search of the birds, or do you all assist each other?"

"We all go together, and, before we set out, we have a good idea as to where the birds of the several owners are to be found, most of us being constantly on the river. If there is a doubt as to the ownership of the cygnets we are easily guided by the marks on the old birds; and if we omit to mark a bird it becomes the property of the Queen, who owns all unmarked birds on the river, besides those marked with her special mark."

The result of this year's swan voyage may be seen by the following tables furnished by Mr. Abnett :—

		Queen's.		Vintners'.		Dyers'.		Totals.
		Old.	Young.	Old.	Young.	Old.	Young.	
First day ...	London to Ditton ...	18	2	14	8	3	2	47
Second day	Ditton to Staines ...	27	17	15	8	12	1	80
Third day...	Staines to Bray	20	19	17	15	24	8	103
Fourth day	Bray to Henley.....	64	11	16	1	20	1	113
	Totals	129	49	62	32	59	12	343

"How is it, Mr. Abnett, that the number of young birds is so small, seeing that swans lay from six to eight eggs a year?"

"They are not often all hatched. Some of the eggs are stolen; sometimes the nests, which are always near the water, are swamped, flooded, or destroyed in some other way; and we lose a good many young birds through all kinds of accidents on the river."

"Is ever any harm done to them by those on board pleasure boats or steamers?"

"Hardly ever, and it is often difficult to say how a bird gets killed or injured. The fishermen are the swan's worst enemies, as they have a notion that the birds eat a great quantity of fish and spawn, whereas the ducks and eels may do much more mischief in that way. Some birds also get killed for the sake of the shilling which we pay for every dead bird brought to us, but that is not often the case. A few are fattened every year for her Majesty's table, but though the swans ought to increase more than they actually do, still, they have considerably increased during the last twenty years. When I first became swan-marker the Vintners had only forty-three birds on the river, whereas they have now more than twice that number."

"Can you tell me, Mr. Abnett, how long the various owners have had swans on the river?"

"From time immemorial. Long ago the Vintners had a garden to their hall in Upper Thames-street, which ran down to the water's edge, and there they put first some swans on the river. These multiplied and dispersed in time, and finally were scattered all over the Thames. I suppose it is the same with the Dyers. Formerly Eton College used to have swans too, but they allowed their charter to run out, and never renewed it."

"And has the swan-herd any other duties than those of marking the swans and keeping an eye on their breeding-places?"

"No: the birds keep themselves in summer, and if it gets very cold in winter there are always plenty of people who are glad to take them into a barn and keep them for fourpence a day. They require very little food; they eat almost anything they come across. Their age? It is impossible to tell exactly how old they get, as the birth of each individual swan is not registered, but they live a long time. There are swans on the river now which were old birds when I first went on the water, which is a good many years ago, but whether they live to be over a hundred years old I could not tell."

"But is it true what the story says, that they break into song when they feel their end approaching?"

"*That* I can't tell you either, but I've never heard them sing."

"Now as to the marking, Mr. Abnett. I have heard it said that it is rather a cruel thing to do, and that you swan-markers are none too tender to your victims."

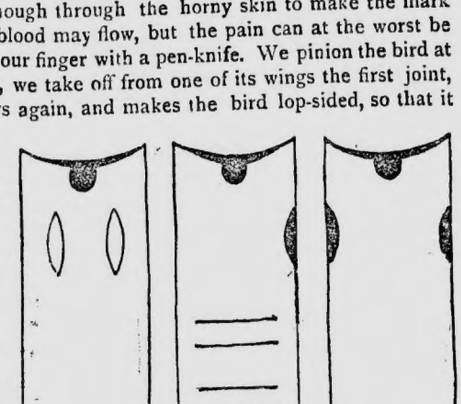
"Yes, yes, I know all that," laughingly replied Mr. Abnett, who, by the way, has not the appearance of a man who would wilfully hurt a living creature, "and ten years ago the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals tried to get us into hot water by bringing us into the law courts. But no case was found against us, and we are marking to-day exactly as we marked before, except that we have done away with any mark which we could possibly do without. At the time when our case was in court the custodian of the Royal swans in Holland came over with a swan which was marked on a ring it wore round its neck. That was said to be a more humane way of doing. However, the ring had to be wide, so as not to prevent the bird from swallowing its food, and every time it dived down into the water the ring went up to its head. Three weeks after its arrival it was found choked by its ring. Since then we've heard no more about rings."

It is interesting to note at this point that at the time of the trial in 1878 Mr. Frank Buckland wrote a letter to the press in which he expressed his opinion that the existing system of marking swans did not cause any special suffering to the birds, besides the slight pain and inconvenience felt immediately after the process. A member of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, who at the time called on Mr. Buckland, was announced by the servant as a representative of the Society for the Propagation of Brutality in Anima's.

"Then how is the actual marking done, and what are your instruments of torture?"—"We have no other instruments than a small ordinary pen-knife. With that we nick our marks quickly into the upper mandible of the bird, cutting just deep enough through the horny skin to make the mark last. Sometimes a drop of blood may flow, but the pain can at the worst be no more than when you cut your finger with a pen-knife. We pinion the bird at the same time: that is to say, we take off from one of its wings the first joint, which, of course, never grows again, and makes the bird lop-sided, so that it could not possibly rise on its wing to any height above the water. The pinioning is painful at the moment; but we tie the wound carefully up, and very soon the bird knows nothing about it, and is as well and as strong as ever. I am trying to invent a special little instrument to mark the beak, but as yet I have not quite succeeded, and am using a penknife made specially for the purpose. No; the birds do not offer much resistance when our boats approach, although they know us as well as anybody. I never remember any accident happening through the birds resisting our approach. As a rule they try to get away; but we are too quick for them, and if now and then one does show fight we simply catch him round the neck with a hook, which makes it impossible for the bird to get away or to turn about much. When we have got hold of them we put their legs crossways over their backs, and in a few minutes the operation is performed, and the swan is set free to go where it likes."

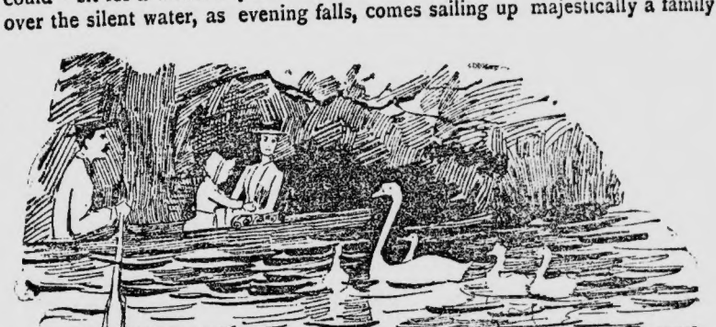
PINIONED WING.

NATURAL WING.



THE QUEEN'S. THE DYERS'. THE VINTNERS'.

The Thames is all alive with the idyllic still life of a hot summer afternoon. Under the overhanging boughs of the old willow-trees on the banks parties of leisured folks are taking their afternoon tea. The reflection of the pink and white and pale-blue gowns of the fair ladies comes up out of the depths of the clear green water like so many giant flowers. Anglers, their venerable or youthful heads enveloped in big white handkerchiefs, sit motionless in a punt, demonstrating in their person that there are still persons who could "sit for a whole day on the bank of a stream doing nothing." And over the silent water, as evening falls, comes sailing up majestically a family



AMONG THE "DUCKS" AND SWANS.

of swans, two parent birds of purest white, and five cygnets, pearly grey—all proud and calm, with the stony calmness which vanishes instantaneously and only when a morsel of food is thrown to the Royal birds, which are as greedy as wolves and as unsociable, for they never give a sign of the attachment to and fondness for mankind which, in most tame animals, represents the smile on a human face. As they proceed towards an island where landing is prohibited to common mortals they are the most graceful part of the fair summer scene on the Thames, leaving behind them in the water long furrows of rippling gold.

THE STRIKES AND THE STRIKERS IN PARIS.

A VISIT TO THE LADY EDITOR OF THEIR ORGAN.

PARIS, Wednesday Evening.

IN order to make a sensation it is necessary to have an organ, and the navvies in their present strike have had a piece of luck in securing as their friend and ally that most lively and militant of Radical sheets, the *Cri du Peuple*. In the Salle de Redaction of the *Cri*, with its red walls and its presiding bust of Liberty on a red-draped pedestal, the "terrassiers" are as much at home as the members of the staff itself. There is more in the alliance on the side of the *Cri* than mere journalistic enterprise or political expediency, for Mdme. Séverine, the talented directrice of the paper, is well known as one of the truest-hearted friends that the Paris working-man possesses. I had not been in Paris twenty-four hours before I had been asked half a dozen times if I had yet seen Mdme. Séverine; it was not, however, until yesterday that I was enabled to make her acquaintance, and as she occupies the proud position of being the only lady editor of a daily paper in Paris, I send you a few notes on her personality.

The *Cri*—as it is always called by its readers—is located in that home of Paris journalism, 142, Rue Montmartre. The offices of the *Cocarde*, the *XIXe Siècle*, *L'Homme Libre*, *L'Intransigeant*, have all to be passed before those belonging to the *Cri* are reached, and on the same floor are Madame's private apartments. It was Jules Vallès, the Communist, who, on returning to Paris on the granting of the amnesty after nine years' exile in London, founded the *Cri du Peuple*, and his intimate friend Mdme. Séverine joined him in the enterprise. When, three years ago, she had nursed him through his last illness, she succeeded to the pen and the editorial chair of the leader, and has bravely carried on his work ever since, as far as possible on the lines which he had laid down.

It was in a charming salon that Mdme. Séverine received me, full of mementoes of the Communist leader, who, by the way, escaped with his life after the Commune only because four of his companions in succession were shot by mistake in his place. There were busts and portraits of him round the room, besides his books, bureau, and arm-chair. But my hostess was still more interesting than her furniture. Women as a rule succeed young, when they succeed at all, and La Séverine is not more than two or three and thirty, with a bright mobile face, large expressive eyes, and masses of fair, fuzzy hair. She plunged at once into the political question of the day, confirming the conclusion that I had already arrived at, that although the

present troubles may not herald any immediate political crisis, they undoubtedly give evidence of an amount of actual misery and latent discontent which sooner or later must explode. "C'est le commencement de la fin," as Louise Michel said, only the end may still be several years off. Mdme. Séverine is a very energetic and popular journalist. Whenever a leader signed by her appears in the *Cri*, the sale of the paper for that day goes up 5,000. She possesses a quick, clear insight into her subject, and her crisp, telling style of writing is of course largely moulded on that of Vallès himself. Besides editing her own paper, she contributes regular articles, under the respective signatures of "Renée" and "Jacqueline," to the *Gaulois* and to *Gil Blas*. But her work is beginning to weigh very heavily upon her; throwing, as she does, her whole soul into her writing, it can only be accomplished at a frightful expenditure of nervous strength. As one of her friends said of her the other day, "Elle est trop femme pour son métier." She herself said that she was utterly sick of politics, that nothing could be more disheartening than the miserable intriguing which divides all political parties in France. For the future, as far as possible she will keep outside mere party questions, and will work directly for the people, and for any Government that will secure to the working man his daily pot-au-feu. But, she added, she felt doubtful whether she should be able to carry on her editorial work much longer. She suffers from one painful drawback—as a woman, she cannot fight her own duels, and each time she pens a scathing leader or a biting attack she feels she may have risked the life of one of her comrades. "Cela me paralyse," she exclaimed. In her salon there hangs a ghastly drawing of a scene which occurred three years ago, when an insulted opponent rushed into the office and shot a member of the staff dead at his desk. Certainly advanced journalism has its disadvantages in Paris. Now, in the Salle de Rédaction foils and pistols lie on the table among the pens and the paper, and the men on the staff, all young and enthusiastically devoted to La Directrice, practise fencing in the intervals of leader-writing.

The strike among the carpenters is spreading, and may become general in a day or two. Their demands are 80 c. an hour instead of 60 c., as at present, and a working day of nine hours. Their adhesion to the strike is likely to introduce a less patient and peaceful element into the struggle, for among the carpenters are to be found some of the most advanced Anarchists in Paris. The movement will probably partake more of the character of a noisy demonstration than of a prolonged or unanimous strike. As for all the "garçons de café," the "garçons patissiers" and "limonadiers," they have fallen into the background since their leader, Soudey, was arrested last week. Nor are they very "bien-vus" by the terrassiers, for it was principally owing to the street-rows caused by the waiters that the "Bourse du Travail" was shut. Their grievances turn on the question of pourboires *v.* fixed wages, and still more on that of the "bureaux de placement," or registry offices. These institutions, besides charging a very high rate—often 20 f.—for finding a good situation, sow dissensions between master and employé, in order to increase their own business by promoting frequent changes. It is these same "bureaux de placement" who tempt young girls from England and Switzerland by false offers of situations. At the same time, it is not easy to see how the Government could suppress them entirely, as the "garçons de café" propose. Perhaps the fact that the great majority of them are foreigners accounts for the little general sympathy which their strike has excited. Sympathy with the "terrassiers," on the other hand, is very general throughout Paris, although it would be incorrect to say that the excitement on the subject is very great. Paris, perhaps, is *blasé* about revolutions, and there is less general excitement over the present strike than there was last November over M. Carnot's election or over General Boulanger's demonstrations in the spring. Nevertheless, there is such a thing as being wilfully blind, and although M. Floquet may be justified "pour le moment" in shrugging his shoulders, and M. Clémenceau may be in the right in going off cheerfully for the summer to the baths of Luchon, yet it is impossible to note the presence in Paris of many thousand semi-starving and resolute men, without feeling that the Government would do well in its own interests to take the situation a little bit more "au sérieux."

"THE MAN WHO MIGHT HAVE AVERTED THE FRENCH REVOLUTION." *

TURGOT is known to the general reader as a man of heavy qualities, but wise withal, who might have averted the French revolution if he had been given his own way in 1776. As any such licence would have been nothing less than a breach of natural law, it is hardly worth speculating what might or might not have been the sequel of it. Essayists raise the question for no better reason than that the world still confounds history with story telling, and thinks Marie Antoinette an important historic personage because she is invaluable as a heroine of romance. The great point which the events of 1776 afford to your fictionist historian is that when Marie Antoinette induced her husband to give his controller-general what the dignity of history forbids us to call the sack, though her action merits no graver word, she signed her own death warrant and that of many other women who had no share in the dishonest and heartless expenditure against which Turgot put down his foot. She was right from her own point of view, which, though she was only twenty, was substantially that now taken by the Duke of Cambridge, who is somewhat more experienced. Why should she not look after her own interests? Turgot was thinking only of the people, who were nothing to her. In their interests—and partly, perhaps, for the sake of putting into practice his pet economic doctrine—he would have thrown down the ramparts of feudalism and mediævalism behind which she was comfortably living beyond her income. Besides, everybody said he was wrong: the people themselves rose starving against his Free Trade enactments, and besieged the royal castle until law and order was restored by the famous "new gallows, forty feet high. On the whole, since Marie Antoinette gained fourteen years more of the old Versailles life by getting rid of the "homme à système"; and enjoyed, into the bargain, experiments in assertion of privilege, resolute government, and standing no nonsense generally which were quite in the iron manner of Mr. Balfour, she perhaps made as lucrative a bargain as the circumstances allowed. Even if Turgot had been able to show her the future, it is conceivable that she, tempted by a Mephistophelean bond for thirteen years more of Versailles and then chaos, might have held to her choice.

To us nowadays this little by-comedy between the philosophic moralist and the self-willed and extravagant fine lady, is of no moment whatever: what concerns us is his unlucky position between the old order and the new. No Englishman ever had to face such a task as was set to Turgot. He had to attempt the work of Adam Smith and of Wat Tyler at the same time—not only to set trade free from the outgrown swaddlings (with a "vested interest" in every one of them) which survived from the mediæval guild system, but to abolish villenage. There was not only the difficulty of fighting the "Parliament," which was all for the guild methods; and the Court, which was all for the feudal system: there was also the question of what new regulation should take the place of the old. We can see clearly enough now that the only finally possible new order was complete democracy; but Turgot was no Democrat: in spite of his Whig economics he was a Tory in his notions of authority. He had to accept the alternative, temporarily possible, but finally disastrous, of anarchy, which seems startling and even reprehensible: wherefore it is well to remember that we also accepted it, and the whole civilized world after us, *faute de mieux*. What is more, we are not yet clear of it; and as it does not work well, and never did, the whole interest of the present situation to those who can see further than the end of their noses (which are now just touching Home Rule) lies in the problem of the new order that is to supersede anarchy. Mr. Balfour and Lord Salisbury, as one may mention by way of an illustration and a snap-shot, are trying to dragoon us back into feudalism; and Mr. Ruskin leans to the opinion that a new feudalism under highly moralized barons would settle the question. And so it would; but unfortunately the Balfourian barons are not highly moralized.

On the outside it seems curious that Turgot should in any extremity have faced and even preached industrial anarchy. But he did it willingly—enthusiastically, even. He was the disciple of Gournay, full of the hopes raised by the newly discovered science of modern political economy. Like all the economists of his day, he saw that there existed in free competition a powerful automatic natural regulator of production and distribution. What he did not see was that this regulator worked with no regard whatever to human welfare, and that its final benefits were, by the very theory of it, confined to the proprietors of the sources of production, so that it must in the long run come to the vesting of those sources in the whole nation, if only because competition would make life intolerable for the multiplying proletariat of outsiders. Such a solution was of course as impossible in eighteenth century France as it has proved in comparatively democratic nineteenth century England. The twentieth century will have enough to do to complete it. Meanwhile it is odd how anarchic we still are—how we cling to our faith in the spontaneity of social harmony, and the captivatingly simple method of Mr. Worldly Wiseman's friend for getting the burden off our back. Buy in the cheapest market and sell in the dearest, and everything will come right; why, and how, the professor of political economy can explain. And though the unfortunate professor has for some time past borne these references with growing uneasiness, and even with downright repudiation in a bold instance or two, we still carry our capital to Capel-court, and ask, not which is the stock of the valiant captain of industry and which that of the sweater, but simply which is the more lucrative investment. If Turgot were alive now, he would still be able to show that the individual can do very little better under the circumstances; but he would probably feel in some haste to change the circumstances.

M. Léon Say, as the grandson of his grandfather, and a member of the Academy to boot, has given, in a clear, unimpassioned, classic monograph, and from the Manchester school point of view, a precise account of Turgot's views; of the decrees which brought about his dismissal; and of the remarkable letters to Louis XVI. in which he held up Charles I. of England as a warning to weak kings. Such meagre details of his life as the dignity of the academic style permits are also given. Unfortunately, Messrs. Routledge entrusted the translation of the work to a Frenchman, arguing apparently on the lines taken by prudent ladies who buy a stock of foreign post-cards before they start for a trip on the Continent. M. Masson is incapable of the blunders of "English as she is spoke"; but his careful prose, though its grammar, save for a pardonable slip or two, might make an ordinary lady novelist blush—if any literary consideration could—is nevertheless English as she is not spoke.

* "Turgot." By Léon Say. (London: G. Routledge and Sons. 1888.)

OCCASIONAL NOTES.

If it be true (and we sincerely hope it is) that Mr. Gladstone has invited a party of Irish members to spend some days with him at Hawarden, the invitation crowns the unionist process which has been going on with such remarkable rapidity this year. How absurd it is, the Coercionists used always to be saying, to talk of political association with the Irish members and to laud their public virtues, when you will not have anything whatever to do with them in private. For some time, there was real point in the taunt, but that time has now passed. The union of the Home Rulers has already been carried this year from the platform to the dinner-table; and now we hope it is to be carried a step further —from the House to Hawarden.

"I see," writes a correspondent, "that the Secretary of the so-called 'Parnell Commission' is a Mr. Henry Cunynghame. Is this the Mr. Henry Cunynghame who has filled other similar posts before, and who is an Assistant-Commissioner under the City of London Parochial Charities Act? If so, it would look as if the judges had been anxious to clear themselves from the suspicions of Unionist partizanship which have been thrown upon them; for Mr. Cunynghame is a member of the Eighty Club, and presumably, therefore, a good Home Ruler."

Mr. Goschen's eloquence was by no means the only instrument of conversion relied upon by the Durham Conservatives in their recent demonstration at Wynyard Park. According to a correspondent of the *North Eastern Gazette* the poetic muse of the Tory party was invoked on the occasion, with a success which must have surprised, and possibly delighted, Mr. Goschen. Here are two samples of the Unionist poems distributed broadcast among Lord Londonderry's guests:—

THE G.O.M.

When the Grand Old Man goes to his doom
He will ride in a fiery chariot,
And sit in state
On a red-hot plate
'Twixt Satan and Judas Iscariot.

Says the Devil, "My place is quite full, as you see,
But I'll try and do all that I can.
So I'll let Ananias and Judas go free,
And take in the Grand Old Man."
But the Devil soon found the whole thing a sell,
For old Gladdy corrupted all people in Hell.

GONE, GONE.

Gone from the sweets of office,
Gone from the head of affairs;
Gone in the head, they tell us;
Gone—and nobody cares;
Gone, not to join the angels,
Gone to reflect on the past,
Gone into Opposition;
Gladstone's gone at last!

Gone, let us hope for ever,
Gone, whither none can tell,
Gone, let us hope to Heaven,
There are devils enough in Hell.
Says Satan, "The place is as full as can be,
But I like to make room if I can."
So he let Ananias and Judas go free,
And took in the Grand Old Man.

If Lord Tennyson should cease to be Poet Laureate Lord Salisbury need now be at no loss to find his successor.

The Bonapartists at their banquets yesterday gave a nasty blow to General Boulanger's campaign in the Somme. "We declare," said one of the speakers, "that the present Boulangist movement in favour of the establishment of that principle by the restoration of the Empire under the head of Prince Victor is the only means to restore tranquillity to the country." "The Boulangist movement in favour of . . . Prince Victor": how will the General like that? But the next speaker's remarks were more awkward still. "The Bonapartist Party," he said, "was not afraid of a *coup d'état*, and that *coup d'état* would be made perhaps by them, perhaps by a man whose name everybody knew." "Great applause," we are told, "followed this assertion." It will hardly be echoed in the Boulangist committee-rooms. The General can count, no doubt, with more confidence than ever after yesterday's speeches on the votes of the Bonapartists, but it will be strange if they do not alienate from him the support of the malcontent Republicans.

A correspondent writes:—"I hope 'a Fabian' is under no misapprehension as to two points—(1) the mistake his Chartist friends made in forming a charter at all, and (2) the utter impossibility of carrying, in this country, a scheme full of logical and consistent points. As much of the charter as we shall ever get, barring the payment of members, we have already obtained. But what I want him to see is that agitation for a number of sharply defined points is a political mistake. Everyone of them may become a means of division and not of union. Who cares now for annual Parliaments? The federation idea is much better in every way—that of union to determine what are the points of most pressing importance, and then of combination to carry them. Mr. Walter Bagehot has finely said that Whigism was 'a character, not a creed.' The Liberal Federation has no final cast-iron, Procrustean creed. It would be much less effective were it to frame an imposing programme. It believes in logic, in philosophy, and in history; but it also believes in the peculiar virtue of the English character: so that its policy is—one thing at a time, and half a loaf is better than no bread! This may be essentially mundane, but it is likely to be also more popular. A Chartist's smiles over his darling can be forgiven, but his policy is one that must be practically condemned."

According to the *Daily Telegraph* there are police bands in sixteen of the twenty-two divisions of the metropolitan district. In three or four of these the police practise in public. Why is this custom not universal? If Sir Charles Warren were to set up a band stand in Trafalgar-square, he would do something to remove the unpopularity which has been excited by the doings of his police in the shade of Nelson's Column.

Mrs. Mona Caird is out of the country, far from the din of the controversy about marriage, which she has raised by her article in the *Westminster Review*. But a correspondent who knows her, and who has been married thrice, and wishes to be married a fourth time, declares that she is a "very charming young lady," whose personal opinion is the exact reverse of that suggested by her article. We believe we are justified in declaring that this is a calumny. Mrs. Caird believes what she writes, and expresses her own convictions with a sincerity that is probably not without a background of personal experience.

The marriage controversy has broken out in a new place, this time in the grave columns of the *Guardian*. A correspondent signing himself "Rector" declares that "a celibate order among the clergy is one of the imperative necessities of the time." His chief reason for this conviction is that "as the family multiplies, the man loses heart." But possibly there is a mean between absolute celibacy and the infinite multiplication of children; and if all that we hear is true, the doctrine which used to be denounced as unnatural and anti-Christian when advocated by atheists is now regarded as a central pillar of the domestic economy of many an English parsonage.

Here is an extract from a naval letter in the *Morning Post*. The writer, a senior lieutenant of the Blockading Squadron, after stating that after seven months continued secret preparation, twenty-one ironclads and nineteen cruisers were got ready to sail at forty-eight hours notice, proceeds:—

> On their departure what was left in *personnel* and material for the country's defence and to fill the casualties attendant on war? In the dockyards three first-class battleships and four first-class cruisers could be ready in from three to six months, when their guns are supplied: but there are no lieutenants, sub-lieutenants, or trained men to man them. Is there one in the land? Like the cry of Abraham for righteous men to save the Cities of the Plain, "Peradventure ten may be found there."

A month of actual war would probably bring home even to Mr. Campbell-Bannerman that we have been cutting it so fine for so long as to have practically no margin for the wear and tear of active hostilities.

The ordinary delusion of the anti-Sabbatarian that there is any security for one day's rest in seven excepting that imposed by what he regards as an irrational superstition received a somewhat severe blow at the meeting of the London Road Car Company. This company has resumed Sunday traffic, and in doing so it has made no provision to secure one day's rest in seven for the men. It has satisfied its conscience by giving them one day's rest a month, and the utmost the most advanced humanitarian among the shareholders ventured to suggest was that they should have three days' rest in four weeks. The board replied that they ran the cars on Sunday in order to earn a dividend for their shareholders, and that answer was held to be conclusive. That is the way in which the rights of labour go to the wall when the old imperative veto on Sunday work loses its hold on the consciences of men.

Opposite Hyde Park-corner the reconstruction of the roadway on the removal of the arch led to the formation of three deltas—one very large and two small ones. They had for a long time a very uncared-for appearance. The most valuable site, perhaps, in all the West-end looked like a waste ground on which carpets might be beaten or rubbish shot. It was suggested in these columns that the ground might be dug up and sixpennyworth of grass seed laid down. The suggestion was taken—tardily certainly, but still actually. Nature backed up the action of the authorities and the deltas were covered in due time with a scrubby turf. Now the largest of them is shut off from view; a hoarding surrounds it. They are laying down an asphalte pavement, and the Duke's statue will be up before the year ends. Perhaps it is useless to offer up a petition for a grass margin round the statue. We all agree that in foreign cities

statues never look so well as when surrounded with green. We are even obliged to confess it with regard to the statues of our statesmen in the grass square by St. Margaret's, Westminster. But we lay down the asphalte. At least it is hoped something may be done with the remaining little deltas. In any third-rate German town there would be ornamental water, flower-beds, and well-kept turf. In any second-rate French city there would be a tasteful fountain. In London space is so priceless that we are able to show our wealth by ostentatiously neglecting to utilize it.

There is a taking dash of paradox in the statement of a clerical correspondent of the *Daily Chronicle* that the sole cause of street ruffianism in the streets of London is the School Board. The one preventive of ruffianism, he argues, is the unlimited use of the birch. The School Board limits the use of it. Therefore we are overrun with gangs of Gallatleys. As a matter of fact, however, the limitation in question is one which need involve no loss of efficiency whatever. "Except the headmaster, the teachers are not allowed," says the correspondent, "to inflict any kind of punishment, even for the grossest acts of insubordination, under the penalty of immediate dismissal. The consequence is the children do almost as they like, and what they like." But "the consequence" does not follow. For what in the world are the teachers about if they do not report "the grossest acts of insubordination" to the headmaster?

Messrs. Johnson, Budd, and Johnson write to us as follows:—

As solicitors for the Hon. H. L. Bourke, whose name appears in a paragraph in your issue of yesterday under the heading of "A Right of Way Dispute," we write to ask you to be good enough to correct some inaccuracies in your report. Mr. Bourke has no desire in any way to interfere with any public footpath or right of way. He has *not* erected a fence across any footpath whatever on his property, for the very simple reason that there is no footpath to erect a fence across. Mr. Bourke owns land on both sides of the river Mole, and what he has done is to place a chain across the river, so as to prevent the passage of boats up and down the river, as he is advised that there is and can be no such right of passage along the river as is claimed. Our client is quite determined to protect his property against law-breakers who, without any vestige of a right, invade his property, insult his servants in the discharge of their duties, land on his ground and poach, and also make use of the most filthy language within earshot of the house. We feel sure that you could not have been aware of the true state of facts, or you would not have inserted the paragraph in question, and we shall be much obliged if you will insert this letter in an early issue of your paper, so as to correct the misapprehension which might arise from a perusal of the paragraph.

The street rowdies of Chelsea have invented a new torment for the cyclists who avail themselves of Battersea Park. They are not content with flicking them with switches and inserting bits of stick in the delicate wires of their wheels, but they set on little boys to run across a cyclist with a view of getting knocked over. Boy falls prostrate howling, park keeper hurries up, takes cyclist's address, a crowd soon gathers, compensation is of course forthcoming, especially if the cyclist is a lady. The wounded child skips merrily off with half-a-crown, divides the booty, and tries for another spill in another part of the park. Of course no caution or cyclist bell is of the least avail against conspiracy of this kind, and unless something is done, or the magistrates before whom a test case is sure to come sooner or later are posted up in this new form of blackmailing, the parks and suburbs of London will soon become intolerable for the better class of cyclists.

LADY R.A.'S.

An Interview with Henrietta Rae and her Husband.

The Academy that has just closed was noteworthy, among other things, for the number of ladies among the exhibitors. Unfortunately the works of lady artists did not gain a corresponding amount of distinction; comparatively few attracted the kindly attention of the critics, and those that made any impression upon the memory of the public could be counted upon the hand. This does not look very promising for the future of art as a profession for women, and it was in the hope of obtaining a more favourable interpretation of the circumstance than it seemed to bear that we called upon Mrs. Ernest Normand—or Henrietta Rae, as we should perhaps here describe her, for, illustrating Mrs. Fenwick Miller's theory, it is under that name she is known to the art world—at her pretty house off the High-street, Kensington. We were most wofully disappointed; Henrietta Rae confirmed the worst fears, and entirely rejected the views of those who regard art as likely to provide brilliant destinies for our daughters. But before we give the substance of a long and animated conversation—in which, at times, Mr. Normand also joined—it will be as well to repeat what the lady told us respecting her own career, in order to show the good right she has to speak on this subject.

A Struggle for Success.

Everybody knows the distinguished position Henrietta Rae has obtained as a lady artist, and everybody remembers the two beautiful pictures she has had at Burlington House—"Zephyrus wooing Flora" and "Eurydice sinking back to Hades." But everybody does not know the sore striving and hard endeavour by which, at the age of twenty-nine, she has got on to the high road of a successful career.

"I began at the age of thirteen," she said, "when I became a student at the Female School of Design. After two years' work there I went to Heatherley's school to draw from the life. Five times I competed for an Academy studentship, always unsuccessfully. On the sixth occasion when I thought that at last success had come, it was found that one student too many had been chosen, and my name being last on the list was struck off. Six months' later, when I was nineteen, a studentship did actually reward my four years' hard labour."

"Very few girls would not have given up in despair after such a series of disappointments."

"I believe you are right. It was terribly hard for me sometimes, and I was more than once on the point of giving up."

Too Frivolous for Art.

"Girls as a rule," Mr. Normand here put in, "think too much of their social pleasures to be able to study art seriously. They think they can learn to paint good pictures at the same time they are going in for balls and parties. It's quite a mistake. I don't think women will ever submit to the drudgery of daily work that success in art at one time or other requires. I know numerous instances of female students pursuing a course of social pleasures while they are supposed to be qualifying for an art career."

Sans Ambition and Perseverance.

"But how about those who take up art, because they will really be obliged to work for an income?"

"Well, of course, they have more seriousness, but they never seem to have enough ambition to become good artists. They generally seem to settle down in the lower spheres of art. They ultimately take to copying portraits, painting Christmas cards, &c. At the most their ambition is to get exhibited at the Society of Lady Artists. Often and often have I been asked by a lady friend to give my opinion of her work. I would find some small thing with flowers, perhaps, without an atom of originality. 'Why do you waste your time on such things?' I would say. 'Why don't you spend your money on a really good picture, get a model, and concentrate your efforts on something really important?' 'Oh, what is the use?' she would reply; 'I should never get it accepted.'"

"What do you say, Mrs. Normand? How is this to be explained?"

"Well, although one does not like to say it, girls don't seem to have enough perseverance. They do all right in the preliminary stages. In the schools they compete successfully with the men. Yet of the large number of women in the Academy schools very few women get pictures accepted. Not one of the twenty-five students or so in a private class for the study of the nude to which I belonged has been successful as a figure painter. Many, of course, marry; and very few have my good fortune in marrying an artist who is so dreadfully severe in his criticism. Painting is really much more laborious than is often thought. Some of my pictures, which look as if they had been painted in two months at the most, have occupied me nearly twelve."

Equality, except in One Respect.

"I suppose there has been no inequality in the treatment of men and women at the Academy?"

"Well, you know the first woman who exhibited a picture—it's about twenty-five years ago now—assumed a man's name. But I don't think at the present time there's any prejudice in the matter, and I am sure I have always been most kindly treated. In respect to landscape, portraits, &c., women, of course, are as well placed as men. I consider it most unjust, however, that they should be debarred at the Academy from study of the nude. So long as this restriction exists they will always have reason to complain of inequality, although they can and do form classes of their own; and they might not be able to do much in figure-painting were it removed."

Mr. Normand also thought the prohibition the result of silly prudery, and pointed out that at South Kensington it had been removed, although the female students had not the instructions of the professor while at their work—a deprivation which Mr. Normand did not think of much consequence.

"Then, you do not think there will be many lady R.A.'s in the coming years?"

"No, I'm afraid not," Mrs. Normand replied; "although, as you will remember, one of the founders of the Academy was Miss Mouser. There will be a few, I dare say. Miss Clara Montalba, for instance, is already on the list, and a good many ladies will earn fair incomes from art; but I do not think we shall ever be dangerous rivals to men. A famous painter once told me that in art women could build the arches, but could not find the corner-stone."

Some Personal Details.

Mrs. Normand then took us up to the studio, where the first object that attracted attention was "Zephyrus Wooing Flora," placed on the easel for "touching up." By its side stood a small picture upon which Mrs. Normand is now engaged. "I think of calling it 'Sleeping,'" she explained; "you will see that the figure is the same as that in 'Doubts.' How do my subjects come to me? Well, I really can't say, except that I am very fond of poetry, and in reading it I have sometimes got suggestions."

Mr. Normand had spoken of the drudgery of art, and if the experience of himself and his wife is common among artists, the expression is not an untrue one. "We work from nine till five or six," she said; "and rarely have any pleasure, except tennis on Sunday. By the time one Academy closes I am hard at work for the next." But her heart is evidently in her work, and it was with a cheerful smile that she bade us good-bye.

ONE OF INFINITE JEST.

THE news that Lawrence, better known as "Larry" Jerome, of New York, the witty Wall-street broker, is on his death-bed, has flashed across the cable, a matter of grief to many on both sides of the Atlantic who numbered that kindly, witty, and worthy gentleman among their friends. A keener sense of humour than he possessed is rarely found, and as a *raconteur* few were his rivals. England he knew and loved, and was here for a few months less than a year ago. He was not, as has been stated in the newspapers, the father-in-law of that talented young Liberal-gone-wrong, Lord Randolph Churchill, but his uncle-in-law. It was not "Larry's" child Lord Randolph led to the altar, but the daughter of his brother, the great financier and sportsman, Leonard W. Jerome, the first to make galloping races popular among gentlemen in the Northern States, to the exclusion of the abused, degraded, and "hippodromed" trotting; the founder of the American Jockey Club, and of the meetings at Jerome Park, in Westchester county, New York, not inappropriately called "the American Ascot." The latter, though by no means averse to the good things of this life, enjoyed them all with a certain grave humour his merry brother occasionally took delight in crossing. "Larry's" excess of animal spirits led him in the direction of practical joking, something the other detested. In many of his escapades "Larry's" aider and abettor was the late William M. Travers, whose "good things" spoken have achieved reputation here as well as in America long before his death in the island of Bermuda not long ago. At one time the two were seldom seen together without putting every one on the alert for some new and delicious piece of absurdity. Among their jokes was that of entering a Broadway omnibus one a little after the other, and while pretending to be perfect strangers to each other, getting up a mock quarrel. The one last to arrive would, as if by accident, tread on the first comer's foot. A scream of pain, a "How dare you, sir?" an angry rejoinder, and more hot words, followed by a proposal to descend and fight it out on the sidewalk, while frightened passengers tugged at the strap and made frantic appeals for an invisible policeman. The two conspirators stormed out of the omnibus as if bent on bloodshed, to walk away arm-in-arm and roaring with laughter, to the amazement of the load of befooled passengers.

One of Larry's omnibus tricks was to place his hands on his knees with the part above the first joint of each forefinger so turned in as to make it appear that he had lost a portion of each index finger. When his fellow-passengers had exchanged views as to the possible cause of this singular mutilation, "Larry" would suddenly open his hands and begin drumming on his knees with the fingers supposed to be lost, to the great annoyance of young ladies of a sympathetic nature and nervous elderly gentlemen.

"Larry" and Travers were on such good terms that the latter even forgave "Larry's" mimicking his habit of stammering, whereby Travers was on one occasion placed in an extremely awkward predicament. The two were on their way to Baltimore by train, when that solemn and rather awful personage, the conductor, came to take up the tickets. He approached Larry first, who, admirable mimic that he was, in the few words spoken to the man gave an exact imitation of Travers's peculiar manner of stammering. The conductor passed on to Travers, who asked him a question.

"I ob--je—je—ject," shouted "Larry," pretending to be in a great passion, as he started from his seat, "to tha—tha—that ma—man mo—mocking me."

"You have no right to make fun of a stranger, sir," said the conductor, sternly.

"But ho—how ca—can I h—help it?" gasped Travers, half amused and half angry.

"The—there he goes again," half sobbed "Larry." "Wo—won't you ma—make him sto—stop?"

But for the interference of bystanders, who thought the joke had gone far enough, poor Mr. Travers would have been put off the train by "the autocrat of the punch."

On another occasion "Larry" met a young parvenu at a country-house where both were received as guests. The attention of young Midas was attracted by a large black figure in biscotte of an Ethiopian holding in his hands a large card receiver. "What is that for?" he inquired of "Larry."

"Hush," said the latter. "That is a mystery, and it shows how delicate-minded a man our host is. It is customary to give something to the servants when you go away, and as it seems rather coarse to press it in their hands, why, instead of doing that, you simply place your 'tip' in that tray when nobody is looking, and later on the pampered menial goes there and gets it."

The youth took "Larry" *au pied de la lettre*, and actually put two golden "eagles" in the tray on the morning of his deParture, to the no small astonishment of his host.

The proprietor of a tiny newspaper printed in New York, in the course of a heated argument with "Larry," asked him if he ever bought the paper.

"No," answered "Larry," "but I sometimes put my head out of the window and glance through it as it goes up town on the news waggons."

Besides being a good mimic, "Larry" possessed the somewhat rare histrionic faculty of shedding an unlimited number of tears at will. When he had so badgered a victim of his badinage that the latter lost his temper, "Larry" would pretend to be deeply hurt, and would burst into a perfect flood of perfectly authentic tears while continuing to say the drollest things imaginable, and to heap ridicule upon his "subject."

An excellent husband and father, a devoted friend, his death will be matter of great regret to the hundreds, or even thousands, who owe to his genial humour a happy hour. He was in the commissary department of the Union Army for a time during the Civil War, and afterwards for many years a noted figure on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange, or in the Union Club, where he had long been a member. A few years ago he sold his seat in the board, and has been, ever since, enjoying his *otium cum dignitate* in the quiet evening of a busy life.

THE MAJOR.

At Home and Abroad.

In a Circular Note protesting against the action of the Italians at Massowah the Porte declares that this action is a violation of treaties, and makes claim to the possessions on the western coast of the Red Sea.

Yellow fever is reported to prevail in Cuba, and also along the Rio Grande border between Texas and Mexico, on each side of which close quarantine is maintained. In Jacksonville new cases have occurred.

Much alarm has been occasioned at Devonport by a rather serious outbreak of diphtheria, nearly forty cases having occurred, involving six deaths.

A convention of the "American" party met yesterday at Washington to nominate a candidate for the office of President. This is a new party, formed to encourage a feeling in favour of confining power as far as possible to native-born Americans.

From Wady Halfa a further fall of the Nile is reported, which justifies some anxiety, but a feeling of alarm would be premature. A slight fall in the level during August is the rule, almost the only exception having occurred in the remarkably low year 1877.

It is stated that in reply to Count von Moltke's last request to retire, which was made on August 10, the Kaiser sent to him an autograph letter, in which he said that it was only the repetition of the Field-Marshal's request that led him to accede to it, and that he was confident that in critical times the army could rely on his counsel.

Remarkable weather was experienced in Chester yesterday. The temperature fell, and for some hours it was so dark in the city that gas had to be used, although no rain fell. There was an east wind blowing, and the weather was remarkably cold for August.

In the North of Ireland yesterday, during the celebration of what is popularly called "Lady Day"—being the Roman Catholic Feast of the Assumption—several party disturbances occurred, and at Lurgan a girl was shot, the wound, it is feared, being likely to prove fatal.

A man named Thomas Wright, a chairmaker, of Holloway, was brought up at Worship-street police-court yesterday, charged on his own confession with having murdered Sarah Squires and her daughter at Hoxton, in July, 1872. He was remanded.

It is understood that the work which has now been commenced of converting the piece of waste ground on the western side of the Royal Courts of Justice into an ornamental garden will not be completed until about the beginning of next spring.

During General Boulanger's political visit to Amiens yesterday some encounters took place between his opponents and supporters: the police and gendarmerie had to interfere, and several persons were wounded. At a banquet the General made a most violent speech against the "Parliamentary Republic," and left Amiens amid a scene of great disorder.

A meeting was to have been held yesterday at Ballinasloe to protest against the action of the Government in superseding the elected guardians. Mr. Byrne, divisional magistrate, informed the leaders that he would allow no meeting to be held, and the occupants of the platform, some of whom were members of Parliament, were ejected by the police.

Typhoid fever of a malignant character has broken out at Tiffield, a small village near Northampton, and is prevailing to an alarming extent. Hardly a family has escaped, and in some of the houses the whole of the inmates are being treated. A cesspool contaminated the village well, and this is supposed to be the cause of the outbreak.

At Luton sessions yesterday, Mr. J. T. Harden, straw hat manufacturer, was fined £6 10s. for keeping thirteen of his female operatives employed after nine o'clock at night. Mr. Harden said he was executing a special order, which had to be sent off that night. He complained of the state of the law, which does not allow an extension of the hours when an occasion of this kind arises.

Mr. Gladstone, replying to a letter on the subject of the fusion of the barrister and solicitor branches of the legal profession, says:—"I am totally unable to answer your arguments on the subject. I have had much intercourse with solicitors, both in London and in the country, and I have always considered the solicitors of high class to be among the most valuable members of society."

At the request of her Majesty's Hydrographic Department the Harbour Committee of St. Helier's, Jersey, have paid a visit to the Minquiers islets, in order to report upon their condition. They found there about seventeen huts or dwellings occupied by Jersey fishermen employed in the lobster fishery. The annual value of the trade with the islands is stated to be from £2,000 to £3,000.

The Brownhills local board, whose district borders Cannock Chase, last night appointed a chairman to attend a county meeting at Stafford, to promote the selection of the Chase as the new Wimbledon. It was stated, on good authority, that the Midland Railway Company, which had a branch line in the neighbourhood, would at once extend it to the camp in the event of the site being selected.

Great excitement was caused in Regent's Park yesterday afternoon on a cry being raised that a woman was attempting to drown herself and her two children in the lake. A park-keeper and a police-constable, with the assistance of two other men, went into the lake and brought out the woman, who was struggling with the children in the water. It is not yet known whether the case is one of accident or attempted suicide.

At the Lambeth police-court yesterday, four men were charged with an assault in Hawkestone Hall, Kennington-road; and one with an attempt at rescue. A meeting of certificate holders in the Rock Freehold Land Society was held in the hall. The proceedings were disorderly, and it was alleged that the persons charged with assault threw a man from the platform. The prisoners were remanded on bail.

At Coventry yesterday Joseph Dangerfield, engineer at Woolwich Arsenal, was committed for trial on two charges of bigamy. He married his first wife in 1868 at Wolverhampton, but parted from her, and six months afterwards Mrs. Dangerfield went to Yorkshire, and there married a miner. In 1881 the prisoner married a woman in Coventry. In 1884 he married a third woman, with whom he lived but two days, and then decamped, taking her watch and chain and money.

Representations having been submitted to the Home Secretary with regard to the case of the lad Frank Dodson, who was convicted before the Sunbury justices of escaping from an industrial school, and sentenced to six weeks' imprisonment and five years' detention in a reformatory, the right hon. gentleman has addressed a communication to the magistrates expressing the opinion that such a sentence is unusual and severe, and suggesting that the detention should be dispensed with. It is understood that the recommendation will be acted upon.

THE QUEEN OF SERVIA AND HER HUSBAND.

NO TRUTH IN THE ALLEGED RECONCILIATION.

(FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, Wednesday.

I hear on the best authority that there is no foundation whatever for the statement that a reconciliation is likely to be effected between the King and Queen of Servia, nor is there any truth in the stories of a proposed meeting between Queen Nathalie and her son. The Queen left the Hague for the simple reason that the weather at Scheveningen was too cold for her to venture on the sea-baths she had been recommended to take, and which were the real object of her journey to Holland.

As regards the political situation, it was only a week or so back that the Queen received from Belgrade the "acte d'accusation," setting forth the causes for which the King seeks a divorce, and which will be laid before the Consistory. Her Majesty applied for an extension of the time allowed by law in order to file her reply, and a delay of a fortnight has been granted her. Thus it is evident that the proceedings are to be conducted on a legal and impartial basis.

The accusations brought by the King in this Act are of a most trivial nature. The Synod, in refusing to grant a divorce on the simple demand of King Milan, asserted the illegality of the proceedings in the face of Queen Nathalie's refusal to give her consent under any circumstances whatever. They were no doubt partially influenced by the Queen's announced intention of coming to Belgrade in order to appear in person before the Synod. The last thing in the world which King Milan desires is the presence of his Queen in his capital—yet to have refused the lawful Queen admittance into the country would have required more audacity and a safer throne than the Servian monarch is possessed of.

It is no secret that the strongest discontent is felt throughout Servia at the treatment to which the Queen has been subjected. The King and his son are for the present at Toblach, and it is not likely that any very important decision will be come to during his absence from Belgrade. In any case his Ministers will be less likely to resort to illegal proceedings while their lord and master is away

Queen Nathalie is as determined as ever to adhere to her legal rights, and since the refusal of the Synod to obey King Milan's behests she has every reason to feel more hopeful as to the future. In the present disturbed condition of feeling in Servia, it is hardly probable that the Ministry of M. Cristics will be a long-lived one. In the meanwhile, the Queen is enabled to receive regular news from her boy, and she resides for the present at Versailles in the most complete retirement.

A Central News telegram from Belgrade yesterday informed us that the Consistory met on Tuesday, and opened an inquiry into the question of the divorce demanded by King Milan. M. Pirochanatz, the Queen's advocate, announced his intention of proceeding to the Hague in order to obtain affidavits from Queen Nathalie and her latest instructions. The Queen insists, according to a Servian law, on her right to appear personally before the Consistory; but it is thought improbable that this demand will be granted.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.)

THE REPUBLICAN CANDIDATE FOR THE PRESIDENCY

NEW YORK, August 15.—General Harrison, the Republican candidate for the Presidency, to-day delivered a speech defending Protection as a barrier to the flood of foreign imports and to the competition of underpaid labour in Europe.

GENERAL BOULANGER'S CAMPAIGN.—MORE RIOTING.

AMIENS, August 16.—General Boulanger, on leaving here yesterday, proceeded to Doullens, where he was received with mingled cheers and hisses. Some rioting subsequently took place, and the town was occupied by troops. Several arrests were made. M. Perrean, a correspondent of the *République Française*, from whom a revolver was seized by the Boulangists during the disturbances here yesterday, declares that the weapon was only loaded with powder, and that it was snatched from his pocket.

THE UNITED STATES AND IRELAND.

NEW YORK, August 15.—The convention of the Irish-American Military Union of the United States met to-day at Albany. Resolutions were adopted expressing sympathy with Ireland and in favour of aiding her aspirations.

THE RAILWAY RACE.—A SENSATIONAL STORY.

Last evening the Flying Scotchman, from King's Cross, arrived at Edinburgh one minute before time, having performed the journey from London in 7 hours 44 minutes. The train kept two minutes before time until Newcastle was reached, but no special efforts were made to make up time. The North-Western express drew up at the Caledonian Station from Euston four minutes before time, having completed the journey in 7 hours 56 minutes.

A correspondent of the *Times*, signing himself "H. F. S.," who is anxious that some account should be taken of the increased wear and tear, mentally and bodily, of the driver and stoker on these special trains is responsible for what follows:—"A friend of one of the drivers told me that he saw a marked effect on his apparent health. The driver told him his anxiety was greatly increased. On one occasion his stoker, who had gone along the engine to oil a valve, became paralyzed with fear, so that he could not move forwards or backwards. He, the driver, had to leave his place and follow his stoker and seize his hand, and so they regained the standing-place. The distances run are so great and the pace so rapid, that any oiling, &c., is done with increased risk. The force of the wind is so great that when the stoker creeps along the footplate alongside of the engine he has to hold on bythe rail like grim death, and has been carried off his feet."

Ten new Assistant-Commissioners have been appointed under the Irish Land Act.

The eleventh International Conference of the Young Men's Christian Association was opened at Stockholm. Three hundred delegates have arrived to attend the meetings. The King and Queen have invited the visitors to a luncheon on Monday next.

MR. PARNELL AND THE "TIMES."

FACTS ABOUT THE COMMISSION.

As we were the first to announce, the Parnell Commission met yesterday, and fixed to begin its investigation on October 16, and appointed September 17 for the holding of a preliminary meeting in the Probate Court, Royal Courts of Justice, "to hear any applications by any party entitled to attend before us under the said act by their counsel, solicitor, or in person." Applications for summonses or other proceedings are to be made to the Secretary of the Commission, Mr. Henry Cunynghame, and all communications are to be addressed to him at the Royal Courts of Justice.

THE SECRETARY OF THE COMMISSION.

Mr. Henry Cunynghame, who has been appointed to the important post of Secretary to the Commission, has the reputation of being one of the ablest men at the junior bar. He is not new to official work of this kind. He was appointed in 1882 to act as Royal Commissioner in some complicated business in British Guiana. His work in British Guiana gave so much satisfaction to the authorities at home that shortly after his return he was appointed (1884) an Assistant Charity Commissioner under Mr. Bryce's City Parochial Charities Act. In this capacity Mr. Cunynghame has done a great deal of difficult work with remarkable tact and energy; and his experience in ferreting out the secrets of these close corporations will no doubt be of great assistance to him in the office to which he has now been appointed. In addition to his judicial and official work, Mr. Cunynghame is well known in London as a practical and earnest advocate of technical education, and as a singularly attractive lecturer on that and kindred subjects.

Mr. Cunynghame, who is just forty years of age, is a man of small stature, but overflowing with spirits and vitality, qualities which he owes, perhaps, to his Irish parentage, his father having been the late General Sir Arthur Thurlow Cunynghame, of Mount Dillon, county Dublin. Before taking to the bar, by the way, Mr. Cunynghame had been educated for the military profession. At the Royal Military College at Woolwich he won the sword of merit and the Pollock medal, and afterwards he served for a time as lieutenant in the Royal Engineers. Mr. Cunynghame is a B.A. of St. John's College, Cambridge, and was called to the Bar (Inner Temple) in 1875. He is well known and universally liked.

MR. GEORGE LEWIS LOSES HIS HOLIDAY.

Owing to the importance and heavy character of the inquiry, Mr. George Lewis, who is acting as the solicitor for the Irish party, finds it impossible to leave London, and will accordingly remain in town for the vacation.

THE SCOTCH ACTION.

Mr. Soames, the solicitor for the *Times*, left town for Edinburgh on Tuesday night. It is stated on good authority that the legal advisers of the *Times* have raised technical objections to the jurisdiction of the Scotch courts. The firm of law-agents chosen to represent the *Times* in the Scotch courts is Messrs. I. and A. F. Anderson, Writers to the Signet, who have, it is understood, already retained as counsel Mr. Robertson (the Solicitor-General for Scotland), Mr. Graham Murray, and Mr. C. S. Dickson.

There is no truth whatever in the report that Mr. Parnell and the other members of the Irish party who have taken action against the *Times* have done so with any view of obtaining an advantage when their evidence is taken before the Commission. All are perfectly prepared to go into the witness-box to give evidence without qualification or reserve.

THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL REFUSES A BRIEF.

It is reported to-day that the Attorney-General, offered a brief to represent the *Times* before the Royal Commission, has asked to be excused.

The statement published that Mr. Parnell intends to vacate his seat till the Judicial Commission or the Scotch jury have completed their inquiries is unfounded.

RESIGNATION OF THE SCOTCH ASTRONOMER ROYAL.

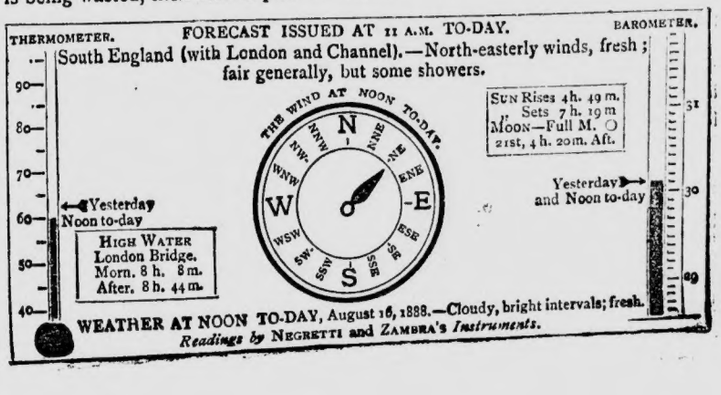
In consequence of advancing years, Professor Piazzi Smyth has retired from the post of Professor of Astronomy in Edinburgh University and Astronomer Royal for Scotland. It is now many years since Professor Smyth held any class for teaching astronomy in the university, and it is said he has been dissatisfied because the observatory on the Calton Hill is so poorly equipped that he cannot compete with other observatories. Professor Smyth is seventy years old.

MR. W. E. GLADSTONE AND MISS CATHERINE GLYNNE.

The London correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian* writes:—I hear that Mr. Clayden has discovered among the papers of the poet Rogers a letter in which Mr. Gladstone announces to Rogers his engagement to Catherine Glynne. It is to be hoped that permission will be given for the publication of this letter in the second and concluding volume of Mr. Clayden's life of Samuel Rogers.

MR. JAMES PAYN'S HOLIDAY.

The distinguished novelist Mr. James Payn writes as follows from Scarborough, where he is now staying:—"At our own seaside resorts, it must be owned, matters are bad enough. In the one where I am at present enjoying (?) myself the umbrella is an inseparable companion. The windows are white with the flattened noses of visitors who are looking out in vain for signs of a break in the sky. If they were at home they could do something, and there would be space to do it in; but cabined, cribbed, confined, in furnished apartments, with their novel finished and conscious that their holiday is being wasted, their case is pitiable indeed."



NOTICE.

A weird and fascinating Story of Modern Life, by Mr. Grant Allen, entitled "Dr. Palliser's Patient," will begin to appear in the PALL MALL GAZETTE *on Monday next, the 20th inst., and will run from day to day until completed on Tuesday, August 28. Readers leaving town can have the numbers containing the novel sent to them to any address in Europe on receipt of a 1s. postal order.*

FOURTH EDITION.

THE GORST INQUIRY.

A CONTRADICTION FROM THE INDIA OFFICE.

THE INDIA OFFICE AND THE NIZAM'S SOLICITORS.

Having called attention the other day to the charges which the Indian papers—of all shades of opinion—were making against Sir John Gorst in connection with the affairs of Hyderabad, we wrote to Sir John Gorst in the hope that he would enable us to prove that the charges were without foundation.

In reply we have to-day received the following letter from Sir John Gorst's secretary :—

India Office, Whitehall, S.W., August 15, 1888.

Sir,—Sir John Gorst desires me to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th inst., and to say that he saw it, and the articles in yesterday's *Pall Mall Gazette* to which it refers, as he was passing through London to-day on the way to the Continent.

Sir John Gorst desires me to say, in reply, that had your representative applied to him earlier, he could have saved you from giving currency to a number of misstatements which the *Pioneer* article contains. The charge which is insinuated against Sir John Gorst in the *Pioneer* is wholly false. Mr. Palmer, so far as Sir John Gorst is aware, had and has no connexion with, or interest in, the Deccan Company ; and Sir John Gorst, throughout the proceedings, consistently refused to have any communication in reference to the Deccan inquiry with any of the parties interested therein, with the exception of an official interview at the India Office with the Nawab Mahdi Ali.—I am, yours faithfully, RICHMOND RITCHIE.

We have much pleasure in giving the fullest publicity to Sir John Gorst's contradiction ; but at the same time it is necessary to point out that the contradiction does not go by any means so far as the original charges. Thus, in the first place, the statement of the *Pioneer*, endorsed by the *Statesman and Friend of India*, was not, so far as we understand, that Mr. Tom Palmer had any specific "connection with or interest in the Deccan Company," but that he was generally mixed up with the seamy side of affairs at Hyderabad. Further, it was stated that he is on intimate terms with Sir John Gorst, and the suggestion was that Mr. Palmer might have acted as intermediary between his friend the Under-Secretary of India and other persons who did have "connexion with or interest in the Deccan Company." This "charge," whatever it may be worth, is not, our readers will see, covered by the terms of Sir John Gorst's letter.

Further, it will be noticed that what Sir John Gorst contradicts is that he had "any communication *in reference to the Deccan inquiry* with any of the parties interested therein." This is a different thing from saying that he did not have "any communication with any of the parties interested therein." We are compelled to make this distinction by the analogy of Mr. Smith's statement with regard to his dealings with the *Times*. Mr. Smith also denied that he had "any communication *in reference to the Commission* with any of the parties interested therein." But that denial, it subsequently appeared, was not inconsistent with the fact that he did have communications with his "old friend" Mr. Walter. An unbelieving generation has questioned whether the "old friends" confined their conversation to the state of the weather. With this precedent before the public, it is unfortunate that Sir John Gorst has not given a less qualified denial to statements which are causing so much disquiet in India.

This feeling that there is something wrong somewhere will not be diminished, we fear, by a fact which we are able to state on unimpeachable authority. The gentleman who has hitherto been acting as solicitor in this country for the Nizam of Hyderabad is Mr. Spencer Whitehead, of Lincoln's Inn. The conduct of the case has, however—so we are informed on independent but entirely trustworthy authority—been transferred from Mr. Whitehead's hands to those of Messrs. Freshfield. This transference has, it is said, been made at the instance of the India Office, and is not disconnected with the embarrassing nature of the evidence procured by Mr. Whitehead.

PRINCESS CHRISTIAN'S ADMISSION TO THE ROMISH CHURCH

The *Irish Catholic* says the reception of Princess Christian, second daughter of the Queen, into the Roman Catholic Church will be void of ceremonial beyond that usual in all similar cases, nor is it probable that publicity will be given to the date and place of reception.

THE SUGAR BOUNTY CONFERENCE.

The plenipotentiaries of the Powers parties to the negotiations for the suppression of sugar bounties met at the Foreign Office to-day at noon in order to settle the text of the convention which is about to be concluded for this purpose. The British plenipotentiaries are the Marquis of Salisbury and Baron Henry de Worms, M.P., Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, who was president of the Conferences held in November and December, 1887, and in April and May of this year. Mr. C. M. Kennedy, C.B., of the Foreign Office, is assistant to the British plenipotentiaries.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.)

FRESH REINFORCEMENTS ORDERED TO SIKKIM.

SIMLA, August 15.—The remaining four companies of the Derbyshire Regiment have been ordered to proceed immediately to Sikkim. The Thibetans in the Jelapla Pass are becoming aggressive.

MR. BLAINE DENOUNCES THE FISHERIES TREATY.

NEW YORK, August 16.—Mr. Blaine received a great ovation at Portland (Maine) yesterday. In a speech delivered on that occasion, Mr. Blaine denounced the Fisheries Treaty.

WASHINGTON, August 16.—The caucus of Republican senators has decided to press the Fisheries Treaty Bill to a division, and to discuss a Tariff Bill. The Convention of the American party met yesterday and nominated Mr. James S. Curtis, of New York, as its President.

THE SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN QUESTION.

BERLIN, August 16.—The *North German Gazette* to-day refers to the statements recently made by the *Nord* that, according to the unanimous opinion of the Danish press, the carrying out of the 5th article of the Prague Treaty of Peace remained that irrevocable condition of a true reconciliation between Denmark and Germany, and that the journey of the Emperor William had brought the Schleswig-Holstein question to the front again, thus reviving the national conflict between the two nations.

The semi-official organ says :—"These statements are only important from the fact that they are made by a paper which is placed at the disposal of the Russian Government, and on the direction of which one of the highest officials of the Russian Foreign Office is engaged. On this account the utterances of the *Nord* have a deeper significance, as it may be gathered from them that the Russian politicians who are behind that journal look forward in the event of a Franco-German war to a large portion of Schleswig being retaken from Germany."

THE SOUTH AFRICAN CUSTOMS UNION BILL.

CAPE TOWN, August 15.—In the House of Assembly to-day Sir Gordon Sprigg, the Premier, announced that in consequence of the rejection by the Legislative Council of the South African Customs Union Bill, the Governor had been advised to prorogue Parliament and to summon a special session in a week's time to reconsider the measure.

UNRESTRICTED RECIPROCITY IN NOVA SCOTIA.

HALIFAX, August 15.—Sir Adams Archibald, Ministerialist, has been elected member for Colchester by a majority of 600 votes. Unrestricted reciprocity is put forward as the great issue of the present electoral campaign.

EARTHQUAKE IN MAINE.

NEW YORK, August 16.—A sharp earthquake shock was felt in the vicinity of Winthrop, Maine, on the night of the 14th inst., but no damage was caused.

SCULLING RACE AT TORONTO.

TORONTO, August 15.—A sculling match took place to-day in Toronto Bay between O'Connor and Lee. The latter started at the swifter rate, and soon gained a perceptible advantage, but O'Connor rowing a long steady stroke, quickly overhauled him, and before reaching the turning buoy took the lead, which he maintained to the end, winning easily by a length and a half, a distance which might have been increased. The race, which was viewed by a large concourse of spectators, attracted attention from the fact that O'Connor is matched to row Teemer next month for 1,000 dols. and the championship of America.

TWO YOUNG LADIES FIGHT A DUEL.

(EXCHANGE TELEGRAM.)

PARIS, August 16.—A correspondent of the *XIXe Siècle* newspaper telegraphs that a duel with pistols was fought at Cannes yesterday by two young ladies of good families. The quarrel arose over a gentleman to whom both ladies were attached. Both were seriously wounded—one in the chest and the other in the arm.

DR. BARRY AND THE BISHOPRIC OF CHESTER.

The statement that Dr. Barry, the Bishop of Sydney, has been appointed to the vacant see of Chester is premature. The see has neither been accepted by nor offered to him.

STRANDING OF A HIGHLAND PASSENGER STEAMER.

The Highland mail steamer *Clansman*, owned by Messrs. MacBrayne and Co., has gone ashore near Broadford, Skye. Three steamers have left Glasgow to take off the passengers, most of whom were tourists. The *Clansman* was on her way to Stornoway, and the coast where she stranded is wild and exposed. No one was injured.

SERIOUS ACCIDENT TO A GOODS TRAIN.

This morning a serious accident occurred to a goods train from Glasgow while it was descending a steep gradient four miles south of Stonehaven. Twenty-eight waggons were thrown off the line and were driven up in the air in two tiers, a number of them being smashed to atoms. Both lines were blocked and the permanent way greatly damaged. The early passenger trains were greatly delayed, and it will take the best part of the day to get the line cleared.

A QUESTION LEFT UNANSWERED BY THE FRENCH PREMIER.

One of the delegates of the Parisian navvies on strike who was received by M. Floquet, Citizen Buisson, said at the navvy meeting yesterday, that the Prime Minister had forgotten to tell the newspapers at his command that he could not reply to one question put to him. He, Citizen Buisson, asked M. Floquet what savings the navvies could make with an average gain of 2 f. 50 c. a day. The Minister made no reply. Citizen Chevalier urged those present to make no concession, but to resist. While he was speaking one of the audience called out "If I do not get 5 f. a day to remain on strike I shall go back to work to-morrow." The speaker was asked to make his statement from the platform. He mounted it, and said : "I have four children, and not one penny. Are we going to continue doing nothing for a year?" He was not allowed to say more, but, amid cries of "Coward!" and "Put him out!" he was expelled. Citizen Buisson recommended the strikers to organize in the fashion adopted by the English Trade Unions.

THE BOARD OF WORKS SCANDALS.

SALE OF MR. GODDARD'S EFFECTS.

To-day the contents of Seymour Lodge, Brixton, the residence of Mr. Goddard, whose name has been repeatedly mentioned during the Board of Works inquiry, are being submitted to public auction. The sale is exciting a good deal of interest, by reason of the valuable contents of the residence, to which are attached hot-houses, conservatories, orangeries, fountains, &c., the whole being a model of suburban taste and luxury. The apartments are of the most elaborate and costly character. There are paintings by Marland, Herring, West, Armfield, Vickers, Walters, Hyslop, O'Neil, and other artists. In addition there are replicas of Portland vases, Wedgwood, statuary, marble busts on pedestals, and various articles of vertu, besides 250 ounces of silver plate. There are also various Italian, inlaid, and rustic cabinets, some Sèvres china, barometers, &c., to be brought to the hammer.

THE DIRECT RAILWAY SERVICE TO THE EAST.

SUGGESTIVE RECEPTION OF THE NEW TRAIN.

When the first train from Paris arrived in Stamboul, it was received, by superior orders (says the *Daily News*), in solemn, not to say mournful, silence. The railway company had made preparations for decorations, but instructions came that no flag was to be hoisted, and that no demonstration of any kind was to be made. Possibly three hundred people were present, but they were nearly all foreign residents in Constantinople. The head of the secret police was conspicuously present to see that the orders were enforced. This first through train contained only fifty-seven persons, but its arrival is justly regarded as an important event. Already arrangements have been made by which a train will leave daily for Vienna, and though the time occupied is forty-seven hours, being only one hour less than by Varna, it is considered certain that in a few months we shall be twelve hours nearer Western Europe. Turkish sentiment is one of sadness. A wedge has been struck into the country which will leave an opening through which European influences, that are already undermining Oriental customs, will enter and bring about changes.

£20,000 LOST ON THE CRICKET MATCH.

The *Irish Times* London correspondent is responsible for the statement that a young Australian who recently transferred himself to England, where he is coming into note as a plunger on the turf, lost twenty thousand pounds on the match with the Australian cricket team this week, having taken the odds to that amount on his brother colonials.

THE SHOOTING AT SHOEBURYNESS.

The 10-inch gun competition is proceeding. The weather is very fine and bright, with a promise of a hot day. There is no other competition to-day, but there will be an inspection of all the brigades on the cricket field in the afternoon.

LONDON CABBIES ON STRIKE.

Some 125 cabmen in the employ of Mrs. Kite, in whose hands is the contract for the cab traffic from Liverpool-street Station, struck work yesterday morning, and refused to take out their vehicles in consequence of the refusal of Mr. Hinchley, manager of the yard, to entertain a demand for a reduction of 3*s.* or 4*s.* on the sum paid daily by each man for the use of his cab. The price at present paid is 17*s.*, and this, it is alleged by the men, is considerably more than is charged by other cab proprietors. The strikers expect to be supported by cabmen all over London, whose interests they regard as identical with their own. At no time during the day was the cab traffic at Liverpool-street interrupted, as many cabs as were needed being quickly obtainable.

LANCASHIRE AND YORKSHIRE RAILWAY COMPANY.

The half-yearly meeting of the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Company was held at Manchester yesterday, Mr. J. Armytage presiding. The chairman, in moving the adoption of the report, said they had increased the capital account during the half-year by £277,612. The revenue receipts showed an increase of £53,864, almost entirely in goods and minerals. The passenger traffic was less than in the corresponding half-year. The total working expenses, compared with the traffic receipts, were 54.63 per cent., against 54.33 per cent. a year ago and 55.29 per cent. in the year previous. This small increase was fully accounted for by the fact that goods and minerals were far more costly to handle than passengers. The company had had no serious accident during the half-year, and there was a decrease of £6,590 in the amount paid for passenger compensation. Before the next meeting he hoped they would be running their passenger traffic over the Pemberton and Hindley Railway, and so direct between Manchester and Liverpool. A sum of £180,000 would have to be asked for on capital account for general purposes. With regard to the Railway and Canal Traffic Bill, he said they had done their best to get as good an Act as possible. They could only hope that the Board of Trade, in fixing their new maximum rates, would give the fullest interpretation to those words which had been introduced into the bill, "just and reasonable." At the same time, it was quite within the bounds of possibility that their revenue might be affected. Mr. Tunstill seconded the motion. Replying to the observations of some shareholders, the chairman said, as to the proportion of first, second, and third class passengers, they had had voluminous returns prepared upon the matter, and he might say that their company ought to be the last, so far as he could judge, to give up the second class. To give it up would mean a heavy loss. The resolution was passed, as was also a resolution declaring a dividend at the rate of 3¾ per cent. per annum.

DISTRICT RAILWAY DIVIDEND.

The net revenue account of the Metropolitan District Railway shows that, after the payment of all the preference charges and including the Four per Cent. Guaranteed Stock, there is a balance of £5,334 to be carried forward.

REPORTS OF CRICKET MATCHES.

A match was commenced at the Oval to-day between Surrey and Lancashire. Surrey went in first, sending in Abel and Shuter, and when our correspondent despatched this message they had made 87 without the loss of a wicket.

A match was commenced this morning at Nottingham between the Australians and Notts. Notts sent in Scotton and Dixon; the former, however, did not stop long, as he was bowled by Woods for 4, when the total stood at 14.

THIS DAY'S MONEY MARKET.

Half-past One.

BANK RATE 3 PER CENT.—STOCK MARKETS QUIET AND FEATURELESS.

The Bank of England directors, at their meeting this morning, decided to make no alteration in the official minimum, which therefore remains at 3 per cent. In the open market there is only a quiet demand for accommodation, either in the shape of short loans or discounts. Loanable capital is plentiful owing to the disinclination to do business in bills, and is readily obtainable at 1½ to 1¾ per cent. The discount rate has hardened slightly since the withdrawal of gold from the Bank for South America was made known, but nothing is heard of anything being done above 2¾ per cent., while some difficulty is found in obtaining even that rate. The idea of an advance in the Bank rate to-day was not generally entertained, but in some quarters it would have created no surprise had the rate been raised to 4 per cent. Operators now look for an upward movement next week.

There is nothing to report as to the state of the Stock Markets. An absence of business in observable in all departments, and the variations almost without exception are unimportant. The principal speculative attention is again centred in the department for American Railway securities, and in other directions there are few changes of interest. Consols are still neglected, and in the Home Railway Market, beyond a little selling of the Deferred Stocks of the Southern lines and the securities of the Underground lines, there is hardly anything doing. Foreign Government Bonds are lifeless, the only business having been some sales of Peruvian issues, which have given way to a slight extent. American Railroads have risen slightly in response to higher New York quotations, but the advance only ranges from ⅛ to ⅜, and in some cases a further decline is marked. Grand Trunk of Canada stocks are better, although the traffic for the week shows a reduction on the combined system of £9,747, £7,517 of which is on the main line. Mexican Railway issue sare dull, but there has been some inquiry for Diamond mining shares, as also Copper descriptions.

The Stock Market at New York yesterday opened quiet, but steady, with only slight changes. Some strength, however, developed with moderate buying for London account, and advances ranging from ½ to 1½ were recorded. Prices yielded slightly during the last few minutes, but the advance was in most cases maintained, and the market closed firm at nearly the highest.

Letters of allotment and regret in the New York Breweries Company Limited) have been posted.

The following are the latest changes compared with yesterday's closing :—

In Home Railways.—*Lower*: South Eastern Deferred ½, Brighton Deferred ⅜, North Western, Metropolitan and District ¼, Caledonian, Great Western, Midland, North Eastern ⅛ each.

Among Foreign Stocks.—*Declined*: Peruvian 1870 and 1872 ⅛ each.

American Railroads.—*Improved*: Ohio and Mississippi Ordinary ½, Wabash Mortgage ½, the Preference ⅛, Lake Shore, Erie shares, and Denver Preference ¼, Central Pacific, Louisville and Nashville, Milwaukee and St. Paul, Norfolk and Western Preference, Ontario, Pennsylvania, and Philadelphia and Reading shares ⅛, and Mexican Central Bonds ⅛. *Fallen*: Illinois Central ½, Erie Second Mortgage ¼, Denver Ordinary, and New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio First Mortgage ⅛.

As regards Canadian and Foreign Railways.—*Higher*: Grand Trunk First and Second Preference ⅜, the Ordinary 1-16, Mexican First Preference and South Austrian shares ⅛. *Lower*; Mexican Second Preference ⅛.

Kimberley Central shares are up ¼, De Beers, and Rio Tinto ⅛, Cape 1-16, and Imperial Ottoman Bank 1-16.

The Indo-European Telegraph Company notify that, in addition to the interruption already notified of the Eastern Company's cables between Aden and Bombay on the 11th of this month, one of the cables of the Indian Government between Bushire and Jask, in the Persian Gulf, broke down on the 13th inst. at noon. The Indian Government has now, therefore, only one working cable by the Indo-European route, and there is consequently heavy delay on messages. The repairs are expected to be completed between the 20th and 22nd inst.

LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET.—The market continues quiet with a moderate business at previous prices. Sales 8,000. Futures quick at last night's rates, except that August is one point lower.

The following are this day's 1 o'clock prices of the principal Stocks and Shares :—

BRITISH FUNDS, ETC.		
Consols	100⅛	⅜
New Consols 2¾	99¼	⅜
Reduced 3 p. c	100¼	1⅛
Local Loan Stock	103½	¾
New 2½ per. Cent.	95¼	6⅛
India 3½ per Cent.	105¾	8¼
Do. 4½ p. c. Rus.	69⅜	⅞
Egyptian Guar.	102	½
Met. Bd. Wks. 5¼	113	½
Do. 3 p. c. Scrip.	103½	4
Birmingham Crp. Stk.	109¼	10¼
Liverpool	111¼	¼
FOREIGN STOCKS.		
Argentine 6 p. c.	103	5
Do. Hard Dols	69¼	¼xd
Do. Treasury	98	9
Austrian Gold	90	2
Do. Silver	66	8
Brazilian 1875	102⅛	3½
B. Ayres 6 p. c.	102	4
Do. Cedulas	61¼	2¼xd
Chilian 4½ p.c. 1885	100	2
Costa Rica A	89	90
Do. B	83	9
Egypt. State Dom.	101½	2
Do. Unified	84 11-16	13-16
Do. Preference	102½	¾
Do. Daira Sanieh	79½	¾
French 3 p.c. Rnts	82¼	¾
Do. 4½ p.c. Rnts.	105	½
Greek 5 p.c. 1881	73¼	4¼
Hung. Gold Rentes	83⅛	⅜
Italian	95½	¾
Mexican Converted	39¼	40
Peruvian 5 p.c. 72	13¼	14
Do. 6 p.c.	15⅜	⅜
Portuguese	64⅜	⅝
Russian 1873	98⅜	⅝
Spanish 4 p. c.	73⅛	¼
Turkish 1854	99	101
Group 1	24¼	¾
Group 2	15	¼
Groups 3 and 4	14⅜	⅞
4½ p. c. 1871	86½	7
5 p. c. Defence	96½	7
5 p. c. Priority	82	4
Uruguay Unified	72¾	3
Virginia Funded	43½	4½
U.S. 4½ p.c.	107½	8½
BRITISH RAILWAYS.		
Caledonian	106⅛	⅜
Great Eastern	67⅛	8 5/16xd
Great Northern	118½	19¼
Ditto A	102	3
Great Western	144⅛	5 xd
Hull and Barnsley	30¾	¾
Lanc. and York	118	19
Brighton (Ordinary)	140	2
Do. A	124	¼
Chatham (Ordinary)	22⅜	⅜
Do. Preference	101	⅛xd
North Western	170	½
South Western	136	7 xd
Manchester & Shef.	68	70
Do. A.	35½	6
Met. Consolidated	73	½xd
Do. Land Stock	70	1 xd
Do. District	33	½
Midland	132½	3
North British	114⅜	15½
North Eastern	157⅞	8⅛
North Stafford	112	14
South Eastern	131	3
Do. Deferred	105⅛	⅛
FOREIGN RAILWAYS.		
Canada Pacific	59	¼
Cen. Pacific Shares	35¼	6
Chic. Mil. and St. P.	74⅛	⅜
Denver & R. Grande	19⅛	⅜
Do. Pref.	51¼	2¼
Illinois Shares	122½	3½xd
Lake Shore	98⅛	⅛
Ohio & Mississippi	23½	4
Louis. and Nash	60¼	1¼xd
Mex. Cen. Bonds	69½	¾
Do. Nat "A"	64	5
Miss. Kan. & Texas	14¼	¾
N. Y. Cen. Shares	110⅛	⅜
New York Ontario	16¾	17
Erie Shares	28½	¾
Do. Sec. Mort	100½	1
Norfolk & West. Pre	51¼	½
N. Y. P. & O. 1st Mr	38	½
North. Pacific Pref	58½	9
Pennsylvania Sh	53¾	6
Phil. and Read. Sh	25⅛	6⅛&ass
Union Pacific Shares	61⅞	2⅛
Wabash Preferred	27	¼
Do. Gen. Mort	45	½
Grand Trunk Sh.	19	⅛
Do. First Pref.	58¼	9
Do. Second Pref.	41	¼
Do. Third Pref.	22¼	3
Do. Guaranteed	66¼	¾
Mexican Ordinary	46⅞	7⅛
Do First Pref	120⅛	⅜
Ob. do. 2nd Pref	79¾	¾
Lombardo-Venetian	8⅛	⅛
Varna 3 per cent	6¼	7
Nitrate Railway	25½	6
BANKS.		
Alliance Bank	133¼	¾
City Bank	20	1
Consolidated Bank	7¼	8¼
Imperial Ottoman	10⅞	11
London and County	84½	5½xd
Union of London	38½	9½
London and West.	66	7
London Joint Stock	38½	9½
Nat. Prov. of Eng	43	4
Stand. Bnk. S. Afric.	47½	8½
MINES.		
Indian Consolidated	¾	⅜
Mysore shares	3	⅛
Ooregums	1⅛	¼
Cape Copper	3⅞	4
Namaqua	3	⅛
Mason and Barry	9 9 16	11 16
Rio Tinto	21¼	⅜
Montana £1 shares	1 9 16	11 16
De Beers	26⅛	⅜
Kimberley Cent.	31	½
TELEGRAPHS AND TELEPHONES.		
Anglo-American	40½	1½
Do. Pref.	67½	8½
Direct Unit. States	9	¼
Eastern	12¼	½
Ditto Extension	12⅞	13⅛
United Telephone	13⅛	⅜
Globe Teleg. Trust	6⅛	⅛xd
TRAMWAYS, ETC.		
London Gen. Om.	205	10
London Street	12	14
London Tramway	14	15
North Metropolitan	18	½xd
WATERWORKS.		
Chelsea Waterworks	252	7
East London	196	201
Grand Junction	123	8
Kent	267	72 xd
Lambeth	257	62
New River, New	347	52
S'thwrk. & Vauxhall	161	6
W. Middlesex	264	9
GAS AND ELECTRIC LIGHT.		
Gaslight & Coke A	254	5
Imp. Continental	206	9
South Metropolitan	315	20
Brush Elec Lt (£4 pd)	3	½
MISCELLANEOUS.		
Allsopp	8⅛	⅞xd
Guinness and Co.	320	5
Hotchkiss	9	½xd
Bryant and May	12½	¾xd
Spratt's Patent	9⅞	10⅛xd
P. and O. Steam	62	4
Royal Mail Steam	59	61
Nat. Discount Co.	11	½
Hudson's Bay	19⅜	⅝
Suez Canal	87	½
E. & W. Ind. Dock	26	8
London and St. Katharin	90	1

CAPTURED AND KEPT BY BRIGANDS.

THE STORY OF ONE OF THE BELLOVA CAPTIVES.

A telegram from Philippopolis contains the following interesting narrative from Herr Binder, one of the Bellova captives:—"We were taken prisoners on the Sunday evening at half-past eight. Messrs. Scrikofsky, Ländler, Mitklol, and myself were sitting quietly at the Café Manto, in Bellova, when five brigands entered, their yatagans in hand. The chief approached Ländler, and said, 'Signor Ländler, follow me!' Before Ländler could answer he received two blows in the face and was led into the next room. The brigand chief then came up to me and seized hold of me by the wrist. As I hesitated I also received two blows in the face. The brigands brandished their yatagans over our heads, and all resistance would have been in vain. Scrikofsky was released, while Ländler, Mitklol, and I, together with a labourer, had our hands tied. We were taken away about one kilometre, to a pit where the brigands had put me already in 1884. There we found thirteen brigands waiting for us. We marched the whole night till three in the morning, when we rested till noon. On the Monday we sent the first letter to Frau Ländler, asking her to make every effort to obtain our release. On the Wednesday our provisions, taken by the brigands from the café at Bellova, were exhausted. The next two days all we had to eat was beech-leaves, clover, and grass. Tobacco we had in abundance. Six of the band were sent to capture somebody provided with eatables.

"In four or five hours they returned with two Turks, one of whom received 12 f. the next morning to go and buy bread with. He was told that if he did not come back his comrade would be put to death. The Turk, however, did not return. The chief was furious, and wanted to slay the other Turk with his yatagan, but his followers prevented him from doing so. Finally, however, it was decided that he should be killed. The question arose as to who should do the deed. Among the brigands was one Gejargi, a butcher by trade. Lots were drawn in a hat, and the marked paper was drawn by Gejargi. Hassan was standing five yards off. In an imploring tone he called out, "I have £60 at home, and you shall have it if you spare my life!" The brigands laughed incredulously. Towards five o'clock the next morning Gejargi and three others lagged behind, and we knew Hassan was to die. Shortly afterwards they came up without Hassan, and the horrible Gejargi, with an air of satisfaction, wiped his knife, rom which the Turk's blood was dropping. They said it was difficult to cut off Hassan's head. The executioner had to try three times before he succeeded. Hassan's murder furnished the brigands with matter for conversation for a whole week.

"The band is organized on a military footing. After our capture they took down our names, nationality, religion, and profession. Five of the band are first-class brigands; four belong to the second class; two act as spies, and the others are called 'fox-tails'—the last do the drudgery. The executioner Gejargi is a first-class brigand. The band is made up of Bulgarians with the exception of two, who are of Albanian origin. When our ransom money came there was a quarrel as to how it was to be divided. Eventually it was distributed in four categories. We ourselves got four pounds each as luck money, with the remark, 'This is a present from our band.' The thirty-two pounds found upon us when we were captured was also returned to us. The brigands who took us are pious. They cross themselves morning and night and before each meal. They live in accordance with certain laws. None of them may marry, as they are afraid a woman might betray them."

SERIOUS DISTURBANCES IN EPIRUS.

DRIVEN TO DESPERATION

The Athens correspondent of the *Standard* telegraphs:—Serious disorders are reported from the Turkish province of Epirus. The latest news from Janina, the capital, states that famine is rife in many districts, whose inhabitants can only keep themselves alive by eating wild herbs and roots. The Albanian garrison of Metzovo, a fortified place near the Greek frontier, have for a long time past received no pay from the Turkish authorities, and have in their desperation attempted to sack the town. They have burnt down ten houses and killed several of the Christian inhabitants who offered resistance to their violence. A number of houses in the place were plundered by the starving soldiery. The Governor, Eyoub Pasha, has despatched troops to the spot to re-establish order, but terrible wretchedness everywhere prevails, owing to the abuses allowed or committed by the Turks. The personnel of the Turkish Legation at Athens, it is said, have for eight months received no salary.

THE CATHEDRALS OF SPAIN.

The Spanish Government has ordered its engineers to report on the condition of the cathedrals of Burgos, Barcelona, Leon, and Santiago, which are in an unsatisfactory state, until Parliament can vote in the autumn Session the supplies necessary for the repairs of the cathedrals. Subscriptions are fast coming in for Seville Cathedral, which will require £30,000 and several years to rebuild the part of the nave which recently fell in. The Pope has sent £400, and authorized the Chapter to raise money on the capital of the pious foundations attached to the diocese. The Comtesse de Paris has sent £1,200, the Duc de Montpensier £1,500, and the local nobility £1,200. The Empress Eugénie, Queens Christina and Isabella, and many bankers and merchants, have contributed handsome donations through the Dean of the cathedral. The works for clearing away the ruins are being pushed on actively.

PILGRIMS AT THE MECCA OF IRELAND.

The town of Knock, which is now the Mecca of Ireland, was visited yesterday by about 20,000 pilgrims, among whom were many from America, Australia, France, Spain, and England. The approaches to the church were blocked by the dense crowds, and the building itself was inaccessible except to a few who arrived last night and secured places. Of these many came on foot from the north of Ireland. The devotional services throughout the day were very impressive. The central figure in the religious ceremonial was that of Archdeacon Cavanagh, who was followed everywhere by hundreds of the people, who sought his benediction. Two "miracles" are reported—one being the restoration to sight of a blind girl, and the other a cure of lameness. The day's devotions ended in a procession in which all the pilgrims joined. It is reported that the Nun of Kenmare is about to return to Knock to finish the convent which she began some years ago and abandoned for some unexplained reason.

"FOR THE BLOOD IS THE LIFE."—Clarke's world-famed Blood Mixture is warranted to cleanse the blood from all impurities, from whatever cause arising. For Scrofula, Scurvy, Eczema, skin and blood diseases, and sores of all kinds, its effects are marvellous. Thousands of testimonials. In bottles, 2s. 9d. and 11s. each, of all Chemists. Proprietors, Lincoln and Midland Counties Drug Company, Lincoln. Ask for Clarke's Blood Mixture, and do not be persuaded to take an imitation.

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THE PALL MALL BUDGET is sent post free to any address in the United Kingdom for 4s. 11d. per quarter.

TO SEARCH FOR STANLEY.

The *New York World* publishes a despatch from Washington stating that Lieutenant Shufeldt, of the United States Navy, is making arrangements to secure leave in order to proceed to Zanzibar for the purpose of organizing an expedition in search of Mr. Stanley.

"QUITE TAME, AND PLAYFUL AS A KITTEN."

An interesting addition to the Zoological Gardens was made yesterday by the arrival of a fine young male tiger, about five months old, which was sent from India as a present to the society from Sir Edward Buck, C.S., Secretary to the Indian Government. The tiger was picked up when a cub about six weeks old by Mr. Reginald Burd, one of a party who had accompanied Sir Edward Buck and Colonel Markham on a tiger-shooting expedition. Its mother, a large tigress which had been devastating the neighbourhood, and the night before had killed an enormous panther in single combat, was shot by Colonel Markham, making the seventy-sixth tiger he has killed. The cub was first brought up on milk given it in a feeding-bottle, but this diet not agreeing with it, it was fed on raw beef juice. It is now a very fine young creature, quite tame, and as playful as a kitten. Mr. E. J. Buck, of Dhariwal, Punjab, brought it home last week in the Peninsular and Oriental steamer *Ballaarat*, and took it to the house of his father, Dr. Buck, of Clapton-common, whose children made quite a pet of it until its removal to the Zoological Gardens yesterday, where Mr. Bartlett received it, and led it through the grounds to its future home, to the great amusement and delight of the visitors.

LONDON SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION.

A meeting of the London School Board Election Committee was held last night at the National Liberal Club, under the presidency of Professor Stuart M.P. An executive council was elected consisting of two members for each division, two additional members to be elected by each divisional committee. Two women were elected, Mrs. Annie Besant and Miss Thomas, and Mr. Percy Bunting was elected as one of the representatives of Marylebone. The following resolution was carried, on the motion of Mr. Sidney Webb, LL.B.:—"That the London School Board Election Committee, while desirous of assisting candidates willing at least to maintain in full efficiency the existing educational system, will not interfere with the formation of the programme to be adopted or the candidate to be selected by each divisional committee, unless requested to do so by such divisional committee."

TRAGIC SUICIDE.—Mr. W. S. Hosley, steward to Lord Braybrooke, at Audley End, was found dead yesterday in the grounds surrounding the mansion. It appears that he attempted to drown himself in an ornamental lake, but scrambled out again, and, opening a vein with his penknife, bled to death. Domestic troubles are said to have preyed on the mind of the deceased.

HORRIBLE DOUBLE MURDER.—A terrible tragedy is reported from Kopacs, in Hungary. A man named Mati had a quarrel with his wife, a young and beautiful woman, whom he had lately married. She sought refuge in his mother's house. Mati followed her there, and on his mother—an old woman over seventy—remonstrating with him, he seized a chopper and literally hacked his mother and wife to pieces.

A MAIL MYSTERY SOLVED.—The police at Chicago have unearthed an extensive system of robbing the street letter-boxes there, and have captured the thieves, who have been operating with false keys. The police have recovered cheques, drafts, money-orders, and other papers valued at 1,000,000 dols., and thus the great derangement in the Chicago mail service, which has existed for a long time, is explained.

THE LANDORE STEEL WORKS.—With reference to the reported stopping of the new Landore Steel Works, it is stated that the works do not belong to Messrs. Siemens and Co. (Limited), but that the firm merely hold shares in the Landore Steel Company, which uses their processes for steel making. The works were only partially closed on Saturday, pending a meeting of the directors of the Landore Company to be held in London to consider future action.

NORTH WOOLWICH GARDENS.—The Drapers' Company have granted £105 towards the £19,000 which is being raised by the committee, of which the Duke of Westminster is chairman, for the acquisition of the North Woolwich gardens as a public park for the dreary district near the Victoria and Royal Albert Docks and Beckton Gas Works. The agreement to purchase the gardens has already been signed, but a sum of about £2,300 has still to be raised before they can be opened to the poor around them.

A MAD BULL IN A THEATRE.—Much excitement was occasioned at Nottingham yesterday by an infuriated bull. The animal knocked down and injured several persons in the market-place, and afterwards rushed into the Theatre Royal, entering by the stage door. It did considerable damage among the scenery. A number of property deer used in forest scenery were conspicuously exposed, and these the bull savagely attacked and destroyed. Eventually the animal was driven into a blind alley, and despatched by a bullet.

TRAFFIC RECEIPTS.

The traffic receipts of the undermentioned companies for the week ended Aug. 12, compared with the corresponding week last year, are as follows:—

RAILWAYS.	Increase.	Decrease.
Brighton	£9,700	—
Caledonian	3,324	—
Chatham and Dover	3,567	—
Eastern and Mid.	322	—
Great Eastern	12,730	—
Great Northern	4,114	—
Great Western	7,120	—
Hull and Barnsley	405	—
Lanc. and Yorkshire	7,391	—
Manc. and Sheffield	—	£123
Metropolitan	934	—
Metropolitn. District	652	—
Midland	30,593	—
North British	2,488	—
North Eastern	10,578	—
North Stafford	1,309	—
North Western	3,488	—
South Eastern	7,872	—
South Western	4,577	—
Tilbury	—	420
TRAMWAYS.		
Belfast	151	—

TRAMWAYS.	Increase.	Decrease.
Bordeaux Tr. & Om.	—	£85
Bristol	£561	—
Calais	—	8
Dublin	—	64
Edinburgh	34	—
Germany	288	—
Glasgow Tr. & Om.	1,507	—
Gothenburg	—	8
Hull Street	76	—
Imperial	98	—
London	850	—
London Street	555	—
London Southern	163	—
North Metropolitan	1,461	—
Provincial	1,173	—
Rouen	35	—
Sheffield	99	—
Southampton	75	—
South London	174	—
Sunderland	122	—
Swansea, &c.	115	—
Wolverhampton	140	—

THE HONOURABLE JEFFERSON DAVIS, President of the Confederate States of America during the late Civil War, writing to Messrs. FRY'S agent, says:—"The samples of Cocoa which you kindly sent have been received safely, and have been tried by my family, who consider the different preparations of Cocoa unusually delicate and agreeable." Ask your Grocer for a sample of FRY'S PURE CONCENTRA ED COCOA and copy of Testimonials.

M. RENAN ON THE REIGNS OF DAVID AND SOLOMON.

THE last number of the *Revue des Deux Mondes* contains a further instalment of M. Renan's studies of the history of Israel, under the title of "The Reign of David." All the familiar characteristics of the French scholar are employed in holding up to ridicule and contempt David, the King of Israel, the friend of Jehovah. If a clever ape were caricaturing M. Renan he would probably write with much the same appreciation of his subject. As he was established in his fortress of Zion, at Jerusalem, David appears to the author of "The Life of Jesus" as the head of a strong and simple Government, not unlike that of John of Abyssinia. During his patriarchal and tyrannical reign he never committed one useless crime; and "he was only cruel when cruelty brought him profits." To gain his ends, we are told that David did not shrink from employing any and every means, but the wrongs he did and the mistakes he committed were all cunningly hidden under the cloak of hypocrisy and cunning, which M. Renan seems to consider the chief characteristics of the great King. The crimes he committed were said to be done in the service of Jehovah, and this was particularly lucky, as the criminals whom he thought it necessary to slay, in order to avenge Jehovah, happened generally to be people whose existence was inconvenient to the slayer. Wiser than Saul, David was conciliatory and lenient to those races around him who might become dangerous enemies, and his policy brought about that fusion of races which constitutes a nation. The account of the engagements between the Israelites and the Philistines M. Renan compares to the Homeric poems of the same period, but behind David stands a figure which has no place in the poetry of ancient Greece; Jehovah, the friend of David, a warrior and a strategist, counselling, inspiring, restraining; a mighty deity, but one at whose name ever and again the interpreter of the history of Israel sighs for the former leader of the Israelites, Elohim, the perfect, the ideal God. Jehovah, otherwise indifferent to the atrocities of war, counselled moderation in the battles against the Philistines, and urged that the enemy should be treated with equity. Otherwise warfare was carried on in a manner which makes M. Renan exclaim, "The kingdom of saints was not founded by saints." M. Renan touches on the "explosions of enthusiasm" contained in the Psalms, and says that though David may have had "a taste for poetry" none of the Psalms can seriously be attributed to him. "The date of these dithyrambic poems," he adds, with a fine touch of supreme indifference, "it is often difficult to assign, and it is of little consequence."

That M. Renan does not love David is very evident, but if he finds much to blame and to criticise in the King, the author of the "Abbesse de Jouarre" is infinitely more insolent when he speaks of Jehovah. He says:—

> This capricious God is favouritism itself; his fidelity is quite material; he is absurdly jealous of his rights. He rises up against a people without any known reason. Then the smoke of sacrifice is sent up to him, and he is appeased. He is a creature of the meanest spirit: he rejoices over unmerited pain. The "wars of Jehovah" all end in fearful massacres in honour of this cruel God.

David, though he was a firm adherent of Jehovah, was in no way intolerant, and during his reign he does not seem to have committed one single act of religious intolerance, and his wives and concubines, his friends and his subjects, might follow rival gods without the slightest interference from the King. Later on in life, however, long after the "sacred piece of furniture," the ark of the covenant, had been brought to Zion's heights to rest there from its long peregrinations, David became more fanatical, and he and his people danced, shouted, and leaped about before Jehovah to the sound of instruments and the words of the Psalms. The picture which M. Renan draws of these scenes of rejoicing is very vivid. The distribution of food to the people, and the frantic joy of the King, who is applauded by servants and *petits gens*, and watched with smiles and sneers by the ladies of the harem, peeping stealthily from the palace windows, are all described with the scornful vivacity with which none better than M. Renan knows how to give life and colour to his writings. Besides being a man of progress in religious matters, David was wise and sensible in all matters of State and government. Like Charlemagne, David was King among the priests, but at the same time the master of the priests. The bickerings which troubled poor Saul's life did not exist for him. Like the King of France he bridled theocracy, while at the same time his principles were strongly theocratic. Under David's firm and resolute government the prestige of the Israelites grew, but the Semitic East has never yet established a durable dynasty, and, though apparently David was an exception to the Oriental instability, the end of the reign of David showed signs of decay which no one could have foreseen at the triumphal entrance on the scene of the young King. The cause of this decay was that which enfeebles all Oriental dynasties—namely, polygamy—an evil by which the ties between father and son are loosened, and the most terrible rivalries are introduced into the Palace. When hapless David has at last been gathered to his forefathers, M. Renan bethinks himself for a moment, and then concludes by the following quasi-apology for what he has said:—

> All this happened about a thousand years before Christ. A thousand years before Christ! This must not be forgotten when we undertake to represent so complex a character as that of David. It may be said that real religion was not yet born. The god Jehovah, who day after day becomes of more unprecedented importance in the Israelitish world, is of revolting partiality. He lets his servants succeed; this has been noticed, and it makes him very strong. There is not yet an example of a servant of Jehovah whom Jehovah has abandoned. David's profession of faith is summed up in the word "Jehovah, who has saved my life from all danger." Jehovah is a strong fortress, a rock standing on which the enemies can be defied; a shield and a saviour. The servant of Jehovah is in everything a privileged being. Oh, how wise it is to be a good servant of Jehovah!

It is a pity that M. Renan has not wisdom enough to take to heart his own concluding words. Wit he has and sarcasm, with insolence and presumption in more than sufficient quantity. But of "real religion," if the experience of mankind be any test, there was more in David's little finger than in a thousand M. Renans. The "Abbesse de Jouarre" after all is but a poor substitute for the Psalms.

"The Reign of Solomon" furnishes M. Renan with material for another article of over forty pages in the current number of the *Revue*. The first fact which, in the reign of Solomon, strikes the writer as interesting and important, is that the King, after the manner of Asiatic monarchs, caused all personages to disappear whose presence was in any way inconvenient. The absence, however, of any original information concerning the history of Solomon, compels M. Renan to caution his readers that all facts concerning it must be taken, as it were, *cum grano*, and there is no reason to believe that those historians are right who represent the King as a Macchiavellian tyrant, or a prodigal, avaricious man. On the other hand it should be remembered that the word *hokma* which is generally translated into *sage* really signifies political cleverness, or the art to govern according to Eastern ideas. Part of this idea is that the King is there to fight, and "the Government which fights is Jehovah's agent. If it does not fight, it fails in its duties. In punishing others it escapes chastisement." It was Solomon who created a navy, a cavalry, and war-chariots, in spite of the great opposition of the Conservatives, whose nomad spirits revolted against such innovations. The edifices which rose out of the ground at Jerusalem were marvellous in the eyes of Solomon's contemporaries and of posterity, although the charming episode about the visit of the Queen of Sheba is "probably legendary." Among these edifices the Temple was the most important; but M. Renan, evidently forgetting that Israel rejoiced with its King at the opening of the Temple "for seven days and seven days, even fourteen days," considers that the King was really the only person who took any interest in it, that the masses never showed any enthusiasm for it, and that, indeed, "the Temple of Jerusalem was one of the Sovereign's toys, but not a creation of the nation."

With Solomon's lavish expenditure and accumulation of riches at Jerusalem no fault is found, as "great reigns are always very expensive," and with the grumbling opposition M. Renan has no sympathy, but he holds that no one more than Solomon has contributed to illustrate the great truth *vanitas vanitatum*, although he was in turn parable-writer, naturalist, sceptic, magician, astrologer, alchemist, and cabalist. An author, however, Solomon was not (!), and all that can be attributed to him of Hebrew literature is part of the Book of Proverbs, from chap. x. to chap. xxii., v. 16.

On the whole, concludes M. Renan, the reign of Solomon must be considered a mistake in the history of Israel, for the end of his ill-conducted business was a terrible bankruptcy. Nevertheless, part of the people retained a great admiration for the King; in the Gospel he assumes the greatest human splendour; a circle of myths grew around him from which Mahommed drew his inspiration, "then, on the wings of Islam, this flight of fable shining in thousand colours, has spread over the whole world the magic name of Soleyman."

CORRESPONDENCE.

WAGNER'S GRAVE.

To the EDITOR *of the* PALL MALL GAZETTE.

SIR,—May I write a few words in correction of the paragraph headed "Wagner's Grave" in your issue of the 14th inst.? I have been this year to Bayreuth, and have repeatedly visited the grave, and I can positively assert that it is not in a "shocking state of neglect." It does not lie in the park behind the Wahnfried, but in that part of the Wahnfried garden which is adjacent to the park—or rather, gardens—of the Neue Schloss. The public entrance is from the park, and the grave is railed off so as to prevent a passage being made through the Wahnfried garden. The monument is not marble; it is a huge slab of beautiful polished grey granite, raised on a mound, round the sides of which (not "over the grave") ivy is growing. There are no weeds, but some grass is growing between the ivy, the leaves of which on one side are thin, and one, it may be the only, cause of the leaves being thin, is that many of the pilgrims who visit the grave take away with them a leaf or so of the ivy which grows round the grave. Every time I have been there I have found that flowers have been thrown over on to the entirely plain slab, but this was the only sign of untidiness there.—I am, dear Sir, your obedient servant,

H. G. PLIMMER.

Wunderbau, Norwood, S.E., August 14.

To the EDITOR *of the* PALL MALL GAZETTE.

SIR,—Without counting the creative genius of Richard Wagner, Bayreuth is responsible for much inventive power. A few years ago all the papers contained an account of a storm which blew away the front of the Wagner Theater. I made inquiries on this subject when I visited Bavaria in 1886, but never met a single native who had heard a word about it. I now read harrowing accounts of alleged neglect of the great composer's grave. I happened to visit this grave myself only last week, and failed to detect the slightest trace of past or present neglect. A bank of large-leafed ivy, on which rests a stone, plain almost to severity—on this stone innumerable wreaths and flowers. Such is the resting place of Richard Wagner's remains. Is it this simplicity that has made your informant accuse a loving family of the very last thing in the world it would be guilty of? The finest theatre in the world crammed with musicians from all countries is surely a better means of keeping alive the memory of a great composer than cold marble or lifeless bronze. In Bayreuth one may well exclaim, "Si monumentum quæris, circumspice."—I am, Sir, yours, &c.,

WALTER HELMORE.

72, St. George's-square, S.W., August 15.

THE ELEMENTS OF ACTING.

A PAPER BY MR. DION BOUCICAULT.

MR. BOUCICAULT contributes a paper under the above head to the *New York Herald*, from which we take the following extracts :—

WALK, NOT WADDLE.

Speech, gesture, and gait are the elements of acting. Demosthenes considered gait and gesture, which he calls "action," to be the more important. So let us take them in the first place. The art of walking with dignity and grace is lost. The art of gesture is unrecorded and unknown. If we take a pair of compasses, divide the legs an inch apart, and work the instrument forward on its points, we shall represent the waddling movement of the modern walk. Nature has provided the human form with joints at the hips, knees, ankles, and feet, with the intention that all should be used in movement. We proceed to lock up the ankles and the feet immovably. We reduce the use of the knees to two-thirds of the joint-action, and to avoid working the hip joint we waddle like the aforesaid compasses.

Let us study the line of figures in action, which are represented on the friezes we have discovered in the Greek temples or Roman villas, painted two thousand years ago. Here we can perceive by comparing the various figures in their different attitudes how they moved. It was by propulsion. The action of the leg began when it arrived behind the body. When the foot left the ground to sweep forward it was carried with the sole as parallel to the earth as possible, and planted, not on the heel with the toe in the air, but firm and flat, as if it gripped the ground it occupied. The walk was undulating and continuous—not in jerks. Watch the movement of the feline animals. Compare this graceful, sinuous progression, taught by nature, with a rank of our soldiers, taught by a drill sergeant to kick out their legs in front, with their arms motionless, depriving the body of its natural balance. No wonder that soldiers are the worst pedestrians, and when they are on the field they throw aside the discipline of the barrack yard.

HOW TO LEARN TO WALK WELL.

Let the following experiment be tried :—Place a weight as heavy as may be conveniently carried on the head ; a circular pad should be arranged to prevent it from resting painfully upon the skull. The effect of this burden will be that you will straighten your figure, raise your head, square back your shoulders, so as to bring the weight straightway over the spinal column. You must stand erect or the weight will fall. When the balance is obtained move forward : you will find the legs will move from the hips instinctively, the feet will glide gracefully and the limbs maintain themselves well under the body which is poised above them, the arms, at full length, swaying in accord with the rest of the figure, and a grace of deportment will be enforced. To this habit of carrying burdens on the head I venture to attribute the national grace we observe in the attitudes and the walk of the Spanish, Moorish, and Italian female peasants. If you remove your shoes during this practice you will find the freedom given to the ankle and foot joints will render the task much easier, and after a few trials you will overcome the slight stiffness with which the great effort may be attended.

Erectness of figure and expansion of the chest are better obtained by this simple practice than by backboards, Indian clubs, or any other implements of calisthenics, or by any other exercises I know of. But of more importance : girls inclined to outgrow their strength will find the slight compression distributed along the spine will give compactness to the column. It tends to spread the hips and exerts a pressure on those joints which no other means can reach. You will be surprised, perhaps, to find the great weight that can easily be borne in this manner. Yet we all have seen a strong man assist to raise with great effort a heavy basket to the head of a girl who, when she got it well poised there, walked off with it easily.

GESTURE AND POSTURE.

Gesture may be distinguished as the movement of the body and limbs above the waist, while the movement of those below the waist may be called posture. When the face of the actor is directed toward the spectator it enables him to gather its fullest expression, but all gestures in this attitude of the body are foreshortened, therefore of little avail. When the face is turned in profile it loses much of its power, for the spectator can see but one-half of it. But here gesture is the more eloquent, and is, therefore, largely employed, for it gains in this attitude as much as the face loses. When you have a good, expressive, and appropriate gesture, hold it while the whole thought it accompanies is under expression. If you change it frequently you will seem to fidget. Some young actors gush into gestures and then relapse into inaction, forgetting that gesture must be continuous as speech, for it is speech of the arms, which must be moved from the shoulder, as the legs are moved from the hips.

"ENGLISH AS SHE IS SPOKE."

Now for the next element—speech. This is the great blot on the American stage. Meanwhile some of the audience take home the impression that the words "idea," "ideal," "address," are properly accented on the first syllable, and "inquiry" is pronounced "inquery." Many Americans pronounce the termination "ory," as in "transitory," "migratory," with a long "o" as in "glory" or "story." Some pronounce "military" as "militairy." I prefer these open vowels as more musical, but such is not the pronunciation used by the most cultured people in England, and so long as we propose to speak English, let it be English "as she is spoke." If I have to make the word "sacrifice" heard in a large auditorium I must make the last syllable resonant, pronouncing it as in "price" or "thrice." If pronounced as "fiz" it will not be heard, preceded as it is by the powerful first syllable "sac." So my word will dwindle into nothing. When, therefore, I condemn the American pronunciation as incorrect, I prefer it frequently where it is preferable.

ARTICULATE TO BE AUDIBLE.

A loud voice is not necessarily better heard than one of medium volume. The true secret of the audible, penetrating voice is articulation, a clear delivery of each syllable in every word. The man who bawls an extra in the street is loud enough, but it is not easy to hear what he says. The louder you shout the more difficult you will find it to articulate, for we shout on the vowels. You cannot shout a consonant. The prominent fault of Americans, both on and off the stage, is to shorten their words from two syllables to one, and from three into two. Thus they compress "syllable" into "sylbl," "vowel" into "vowl," "durability" into "dure-bil-ty ;" here are five distinct syllables contracted into three ; and "government" into "gov'ment," thus omitting three liquids—an omission that is certainly not national. The four letters *l, m, n, r* are the softest and most musical in any language, and should be cared for. The danger of falling into precision and formality of speech by studied articulation should be avoided, but the audience will forgive much in the speaker if the speech be clearly audible.

TO-NIGHT'S ENTERTAINMENTS.

LYCEUM THEATRE.

(Sole Lessee, Mr. HENRY IRVING.)

EVERY EVENING (except Saturday), at 8.15,
Mr. RICHARD MANSFIELD as
DR. JEKYLL AND MR. HYDE.

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CRITERION THEATRE.

(Lessee and Manager, Mr. CHARLES WYNDHAM.)

BETSY, the celebrated Criterion Comedy, by F. C. BURNAND, EVERY EVENING at 9, with the original cast, including Messrs. W. Blakeley, H. Standing, A. Maltby, A. Boucicault, and Geo. Giddens ; Mesdames Rose Saker, F. Robertson, E. Terriss, F. Moore, E. Penrose, and Lottie Venne. Preceded by, at 8.15, THE DOWAGER. Doors open 7.45. N.B.—Stage and Auditorium Lighted entirely by Electricity.

ADELPHI THEATRE.

(A. and S. GATTI, Sole Proprietors and Managers.)

THIS EVENING, at Eight, THE UNION JACK. Mr. William Terriss; Messrs. C. Cartwright, J. D. Beveridge, J. L. Shine, L. Cautley, D. Somers, H. Russell, H. Halley, &c. ; Miss Millward ; Mesdames Helen Forsyth, O. Nethersole, D. Drummond, E. Burton, and Clara Jecks. At 7.15, THE REFUGEES. Mr. D. Somers, Miss Agnes Miller, &c.

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JOSEPH'S SWEETHEART. Last Two Nights for the present. 152nd Time. TO-NIGHT, at 8.30, a New Comedy in Five Acts, by ROBERT BUCHANAN, entitled JOSEPH'S SWEETHEART. Preceded, at 7.45, by a new One Act Play, entitled THE BROTHERS, by H. BYATT. Messrs. W. Rignold, C. Maude, J. S. Blythe, S. Buist, F. Gillmore, F. Grove, J. Wheatman, and Fred Thorne; Mesdames G. Homfrey, Arnold, McNeill, Harrison, Maunders, and Kate Rorke. Box-office open 10 till 6.30.

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EVERY EVENING at 8.45, Great Success as MARINA, supported by Misses Carlotta Leclercq, Enid Leslie, Lucy Buckstone; Messrs. E. D. Ward, Herbert Waring, Julian Cross, Fred. Terry, H. Maxwell, James East, Glenn Wynn, &c. Preceded at 8 by POLLY'S VENTURE. Mrs. Smale, &c. Box-office open 10 till 6 daily. "SHE" is in active preparation. Manager, Mr. John Cobbe.

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(Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. EDWARD TERRY.)

(Acting Manager, Mr. H. T. BRICKWELL.)

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(Lessees and Managers, Mr. EDGAR BRUCE and Miss EDITH WOODWORTH.)

THIS EVENING, at 8.45, BOOTLES' BABY. 88th Time. Messrs. Charles Sugden, Edmund Maurice, C. W. Garthorne, Forbes Dawson, Gilbert Farquhar, C. Kent, and Charles Collette; Mesdames Webster, Henrietta Lindley, Rose Evelyn, Maud Merrill, Minnie Terry. At 7.45, TRUE COLOURS. Messrs. Forbes Dawson, A. J. Byde; Mesdames Giffard and Florence Grant.

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EVERY EVENING, at 7.35, WARRANTED BURGLAR PROOF.
At 8.30, punctually, DOROTHY. (692nd Performance.)
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SAVOY.—THE MIKADO.—THIS and EVERY EVENING, at 8.30, and SATURDAY AFTERNOON, at 2.30, until further notice. (Messrs. G. Grossmith, R. Barrington, R. Temple, R. Cummings, and J. G. Robertson ; Mesdames G. Ulmar, S. Grey, A. Cole, and Rosina Brandram.

SAVOY.—THE MIKADO.

COMEDY THEATRE (Last Five Nights for the present).—At 9, a Farcical Comedy, in Three Acts, entitled THE ARABIAN NIGHTS, by SYDNEY GRUNDY. Mr. C. H. Hawtrey, Mr. Wilfred Draycott, Mr. W. Wyes, and Mr. W. S. Penley; Miss Vane Featherston, Miss Blanche Wolseley, Miss Agnes Miller, Miss Gertrude Goetze, Miss Carlotta Zerbini. Box-office open 10 to 5. At 8.100'clock, SUNSET, by JEROME K. JEROME.—Business Manager, Mr. E. F. BRADLEY.

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THE RACE TO EDINBURGH.

From Monday morning last the Great Northern Company, to lighten the task of their less energetic partner north of York, have squeezed another two minutes out of their train as between Grantham and York, thus bringing the time from London to York down to the exact 3 hrs. 30 min. The time of 88 min. for the 83 miles from Grantham to York is, we believe, the "record" for a platform to platform run; it is a very level bit of line on the whole, but with one bad curve just north of Selby, and with no less than four large stations to run through. It is the more remarkable from the fact that over the rails owned by the North Eastern Company (north of Lancaster) the speed is for some reason perceptibly slackened, so that from Grantham to Doncaster—fifty-one miles—the speed averages all but "a mile a minute," with no long down hill slope to gain time on. We give below the "passing" as well as stopping times, from the last official circular as issued by Mr. Cockshott. It may be noted that the train is now limited to *eight* coaches, a limitation which is chiefly noteworthy as showing that it is no very short or light train, but a fair "average" one, that the East Coast companies are sending along at these speeds:—

		Time.			Speed.
King's-cross	dep.	10.0			
Hatfield	pass	10.22			
Hitchin		10.37			54 miles an hour.
Huntingdon		11.5			
Peterboro'		11.23			
Grantham	arr.	11.57			
	dep.	12.2			
Newark	pass	12.17	.....	59	
Retford		12.36	.....	60	55½
Doncaster		12.54	.....	59	
Selby		1.14	.....	55	
York	arr.	1.30	.....	50	

PHIL SHERIDAN'S BIRTHPLACE.

A correspondent writes as follows from Bracklonin Hotel, Auniscaul, Tralee, co. Kerry:—Commenting in your issue of the 6th inst. on the career of the late General Sheridan, you state that there "has always been some confusion, for which the General was in large degree responsible, as to Sheridan's birthplace, but there is little doubt that he was born in the States, in 1831, shortly after the arrival of his father and mother from Ireland." As a tourist in this very picturesque and sporting barony of Corkaguiny I have been much interested in a tradition which the inhabitants give currency to. They say that General Sheridan was born in the barony at a time when his father was steward to Captain Hickson, of Redcliff. Sheridan senior is described as having been a man of singularly upright character and of exceptional ability. On leaving Captain Hickson's employment he established a public-house in Dingle, where he died soon afterwards. His widow married a second time, and the boys of the Sheridan family are said to have emigrated rather than remain at home with their stepfather. I give the hearsay for what it is worth, but it would be difficult to find a more fitting birthplace for the famous Irish-American General than the romantic, mountainous peninsula which is bounded by the Bays of Tralee and Dingle.

WHERE LORD LANSDOWNE WILL LIVE.

THE NEW VICEREGAL LODGE AT SIMLA.

The new Government House at Simla was occupied by the Viceregal party at the close of last month. The structure, which is of stone, is square, or rather oblong, the style of architecture being that of the Elizabethan period. The cut-stone mullions and pillars are finely wrought, as also is the decoration over the main entrance. Two strange animals of some extinct species, are seated on their haunches on each side of the tablets, bearing the names of H. Irwin, the architect, and H. B. Hebbert, the ex-engineer, over the great doorway. The roof of the verandah, on the ground floor, forms a wide balcony on the first floor. The grand entrance opens into a noble hall, oblong in shape like the building, and surrounded by three galleries one above the other, from which opens the doors of the rooms on the different stories. To the right of the great door the main staircase ascends. On the ground floor, the state-room, ball-room, vestibule, and small drawing-room are bright in white and gold, with rich embossed paper of a creamy hue, sprinkled over, as it were, with brown autumn leaves; but the dining-room is the gem of the whole building. Its teakwood dado, surmounted by a row of finely-carved shields resting on a crimson background; its unpainted pillars, doors, and win ow-frames, contrast admirably with the rich, warm-coloured hangings of the walls and the deep rose-satin of the upholstery. The curious design of a skewer thrust through a coil of string on the pillars on each side of the great folding doors which open from the ball-room, will attract some attention. The ceiling here, as in all the principal rooms in the house, is beautifully panelled in octagons, with squares inside each, which, it is said, are destined to bear the arms of India's different Viceroys. The floral cornices round some of the rooms, which one mistakes for wonderful carving or moulding of plaster of Paris, is a preparation in gutta-percha. There is a spacious lift direct from the kitchen in one corner of the dining-room.

Ascending the stairs to the first gallery, you come to the boudoir at the west extremity, in a pretty octagonal corner. Like the ball and drawing rooms, it is painted in white and gold. One door, from a tiny inner room, opens out on to the balcony, and the views from here and the different windows are simply exquisite. One curious feature is a row of lockers, like those in a ship, which occupies one entire side of the room. The next most worthy of notice, on the first floor, is the Viceroy's study, a dream of a mellow autumn evening. Its soft golden light, subdued yet cheerful, seems as much to fall from the

very atmosphere of the room as from its amber-tinted walls. Up again to the last gallery, where the bed-chambers are the counterparts of those below, but where a ridiculously small billiard-room is thrust away into an odd corner beside a little platform reserved for an organ. It is surprising that in a building such as this there should be timber work so detestable as to make one grind one's very teeth as if in physical pain. The pillars supporting the galleries are of deodar, instead of in teakwood, as they ought to be, and are all split and rotten-looking; the doors are falling asunder, or have never been properly fixed together; the window frames, mantelshelves, doorposts, lintels, pillars, and panels are all slanting in various degrees and directions, but are in many cases "off the level" to a very marked degree. The flooring is good in the Viceroy's study only. Everywhere else there are great gaps between the boards, in some of the staircases so wide as to admit of a finger being thrust between the planks. The electric lights are fixed by workmen brought out specially from home. The furniture and upholstery is also from a celebrated London warehouse, Messrs Maple and Co.

GENERAL GORDON ON MARRIAGE.

In connection with the current controversy on the question "Is marriage a failure," it may be interesting to quote the following extracts from Gordon's letters:—

MOOGIE, 29 *August*, 1875.—I think that, happen what will, a husband ought to take his wife and children with him wherever he goes, and trust God with the results; the separation is unnatural, and shows how little we trust God. It is not the climate, it is not the fever, but it is He who snaps the thread, for wise purposes of His own. Bridge the grave this side of it, and these very temporary separations will lose their sting.

* * * * *

Married people with families cannot possibly hold the same views as single people. I say "cannot possibly," but I mean that it is unlikely they should. What a blessing it is one was never married! Marriage spoils human beings, I think; if the wife is willing the husband is not, and *vice versâ*; how often one sees that! Somehow one feels hurt at one's jewels not being appreciated.

STREET PREACHING AGAINST COW-KILLING.

The street-preaching case in Lucknow, which has been for some time past before the criminal courts under section 295 of the Indian Penal Code, has ended in a manner that ought to be satisfactory to the street-preachers of Christianity, if not to those who preach against cow-killing. The additional sessions judge has upheld the conviction of the district magistrate on both offenders; but has converted the sentence of imprisonment on one of them to a fine of Rs. 70. In giving judgment Colonel Newbery held that the language used by the Hindoos far exceeded the limits of argument, and was foul and insulting to the religious feelings of Christians, and was clearly intended to be so.

THE WICKED PRINTER AGAIN.

"An important literary notice extending over one column in Wednesday's *Times* exhibits" (says a correspondent) "an astonishing accumulation of errors which it is difficult to attribute exclusively to the printers. They occur in a review of the life of Lady Georgiana Fullerton, and begin with a double misprint of the lady's name, which appears both at the head of the article and in a note at its foot as 'Lady Georgina Fullarton.' Then 'Mr.' Augustus Craven is twice ostentatiously printed in *lieu* of the familiar title of the well-known authoress of the biography, Mrs. Augustus Craven. Again, the most experienced Roman Catholics will hardly recognize 'Landes' as a place of pilgrimage, until they turn to the work under review, and find that Mr. Fullerton's illness had prevented Lady Georgiana undertaking the journey to Lourdes."

SIAMESE STUDENTS IN ENGLAND.

There are fifteen Siamese students—four of them ladies—undergoing various kinds of professional training in England. The students are sent to England under the auspices of the Government of Siam, and upon arrival there are placed in charge of the superintendent, who is himself under the control of the Envoy. Four of the students have passed through a course of telegraphy; one is studying mining engineering; a third has temporarily joined the Devon Regiment at Aldershot; while the remainder are acquiring an insight into commercial pursuits. Mr. Brown believes that in course of a little time the students will, in their respective professions, attain a European standard of proficiency.

A CURIOUS PROPHECY IN INDIA.

A strange tale of a gold plate with inscriptions falling from Heaven, printed in Tamil and Telegu, is in circulation in India. This mysterious tale, says the Hindoo *Patriot*, is as follows:—A plate which was made of most beautiful gold, with the following inscription, accidentally fell down from Heaven, on the Temple of Casi Viswanath, at Benares: "From the month of November, 1888, God Himself will rule as Emperor over Hindustan, incarnating Himself in human form. From this time there will be justice all over the world, and the Munis—that is, sages—will be in a very prosperous condition, and will be worshipped by the people. On the 6th of March, 1889, at Aswani Nakshet, the sun will rise on the 45' in Mena Lunga. The day will increase and the night will decrease till the day becomes fourteen hours and the night ten hours. All the diseases of men will be cured, and the age of man, which is at present established as 100 years, will in future be 125 years."

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EXTRACTS from REPORT on the FINANCIAL POSITION of the ASSOCIATION by Messrs. WHINNEY, HURLBATT, and SMITH, Chartered Accountants, and Mr. RALPH PRICE HARDY, Fellow of the Institute of Actuaries.
Mr. R. P. HARDY, F.I.A., under date August 8, reports as follows:—
I certify that, as the result of my investigation and valuation, and in my opinion and judgment, the sum of £71,956 fairly and properly represents the "accrued liability" of the Association under its several bond or certificate engagements; that, with such sum invested in sound securities, together with the future contributions (not less than four per cent. interest being realized), the Association will be able—
1. To discharge all the existing Bonds, or Certificates, as they mature.
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3. To meet the surrender values and repayments on the contributors' deaths; and
4. To provide a fund out of which drawings may be periodically made.
All excess of interest realized over the valuation rate of 4 per cent., and any miscellaneous profits, will be available for dividends, or for additional drawings.
RALPH P. HARDY, Actuary.
Messrs. WHINNEY, HURLBATT, and SMITH, Chartered Accountants, under date 11th August, report as follows;—
11th August, 1888.
In pursuance of the instructions contained in a minute passed at a meeting of the Board held on the 17th April, 1888, we have made an exhaustive examination of the accounts of the Association, and we are now in a position to report, as directed, upon the financial position of the Company, which is shown by the accompanying balance sheet of the 30th April, 1888.
We have had unrestricted access to all the Company's books and documents, and have received every possible assistance from the officials. We stipulated that we should have the assistance of an independent actuary to be appointed by ourselves, and we accordingly nominated Mr. Ralph Price Hardy, F.I.A. His report, dated the 8th instant, the result of which is embodied in the balance sheet, is annexed.
The balance-sheet speaks for itself. It shows that—

After providing for all ascertained liabilities	£81,045 12 7
The capital remains intact	13,471 10 0
And there is a reserve of	5,989 7 10
Total assets	£100,506 10 5

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BRIGHTON AND BACK FOR THREE SHILLINGS EVERY SATURDAY and MONDAY, from Victoria 8.25 A.M., calling at Clapham Junction; from London Bridge 8.30 A.M., calling at New Cross, Norwood Junction, and East Croydon; and from Kensington (Addison-road) 8.10 A.M., calling at West Brompton, Chelsea, and Battersea. Returning same day only.

BRIGHTON AND BACK for THREE SHILLINGS.—EVERY SUNDAY, from Victoria 8.50 A.M., from London Bridge 8.55 A.M., calling at New Cross, and from Kensington (Addison-road) 8.50 A.M., calling at West Brompton, Chelsea, Battersea, Clapham Junction, Balham, Streatham-hill, Crystal Palace, Norwood Junction, East Croydon, and South Croydon. Returning same day only.

PORTSMOUTH AND ISLE OF WIGHT.—SATURDAY TO TUESDAY. CHEAP TRAINS EVERY SATURDAY by Direct Main Line Route from Victoria 1.0 P.M., calling at Clapham Junction; from Kensington (Addison-road) 12.45 P.M.; from London Bridge 2.40 P.M., calling at New Cross, Norwood Junction, and West Croydon. Returning the following Tuesday. Portsmouth Town and Southsea. Fare 5s.
Through Tickets at Cheap Fares are also issued by these trains to Ryde and all stations in the Isle of Wight.

PORTSMOUTH and BACK.—EVERY SUNDAY from London Bridge 8.55 A.M.; Victoria 9 A.M.; calling at Clapham Junction, Mitcham Junction, Sutton, Epsom, Leatherhead, and Dorking. Returning the same day. Portsmouth Fare 4s.

PORTSMOUTH AND ROUND THE ISLE OF WIGHT.—EVERY MONDAY from London Bridge 6.45 A.M., Victoria 6.35 A.M., calling at Clapham Junction, Sutton, and Dorking. Returning the same day. Portsmouth Town and Southsea Fare 4s. Fare, including Steamboat Trip round the Isle of Wight, 6s.

HASTINGS, ST. LEONARD'S, BEXHILL, AND EASTBOURNE.—Cheap Fast Trains every Week-day from Victoria 9.55 A.M., London Bridge 9.55 A.M., New Cross 10.0 A.M., East Croydon 10.25 A.M., Kensington (Addison-road) 9.55 A.M., calling at Clapham Junction.
Special Fast Trains every Sunday from London Bridge 9.25 A.M., New Cross 9.30 A.M., Victoria 9.25 A.M., Kensington (Addison-road) 9.10 A.M., Clapham Junction 9.30 A.M., and East Croydon 9.50 A.M.
Special Day Return Tickets, 15s., 10s. 6d., and 6s.

HASTINGS, ST. LEONARD'S, BEXHILL, AND EASTBOURNE AND BACK FOR FOUR SHILLINGS. EVERY MONDAY Special Cheap Trains from Victoria and London Bridge 8.0 A.M., calling at Clapham Junction, New Cross, and East Croydon. Returning same day.

PARIS.—SHORTEST CHEAPEST, ROUTE.
VIA NEWHAVEN, DIEPPE, AND ROUEN.
EXPRESS DAY SERVICE—Every Week day as under:—

	Victoria Station Dep.	London Bridge Station. Dep.	Paris. Arr.
Aug. 17	1 0 p.m.	1 5 p.m.	11 45 p.m.
,, 18	9 10 a.m.	9 20 a.m.	9 40 ,,
,, 20	11 50 ,,	11 55 ,,	11 45 ,,
,, 21	7 5 ,,	7 10 ,,	6 35 ,,

FIXED SERVICE.—Leaving Victoria 7.50 P.M., and London Bridge 8.0 P.M., every weekday and Sunday.
FARES.—London to Paris and back—
Available for return within 1st Class. 2nd Class.
One Month..... £2 17 0 £2 1 0
Third Class Return Tickets (by the Night Service), 32s.
A spacious and commodious Station has been constructed on the new East Quay at Newhaven, wherein passengers will find every possible convenience and comfort.
The *Brittany*, *Normandy*, *Paris*, and *Rouen*, Splendid Fast Paddle Steamers, accomplish the Passage between Newhaven and Dieppe frequently in about 3¼ hours.
Trains run alongside Steamers at Newhaven and Dieppe.
A Pullman Drawing Room Car will be run in the Special Day Tidal Train each way between Victoria and Newhaven.

FOR full particulars see Time Book, Tourist Programme, and Handbills, to be obtained at Victoria, London Bridge or any other Station, and at the following Branch Offices, where tickets may also be obtained:—West-end General Office, 28, Regent-circus, Piccadilly, and 8, Grand Hotel Buildings, Trafalgar square; Hays' Agency, Cornhill; and Cook's Ludgate-circus Office.
(By Order) A. SARLE,
Secretary and General Manager.

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EXTRAORDINARY RESULTS.

The profits paid this year in cash by the SUN LIFE OFFICE have been exceptionally large, surpassing those hitherto given, and for which the Society has been so justly noted, and averaged 196 p.c. of the annual premium (nearly two premiums), payable in cash.

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The above Extraordinary Results prove that a WITH PROFIT POLICY opened with the SUN LIFE OFFICE can be had at considerably LESS THAN COST PRICE.
ENDOWMENT ASSURANCES granted on favourable terms With and Without Profits.—Obtain and read the New Edition of the Society's Prospectus.
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HARRIS C. L. SAUNDERS, } Joint Actuaries.

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GOLD MEDAL, PARIS, 1878.

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SOLD BY ALL STATIONERS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

PEPPER'S QUININE & IRON TONIC.

Health, Strength, Energy.
It quickly arouses great Bodily, Nerve, Mental, and Digestive Strength, promotes Appetite, securing Health, Strength, and Energy.
Insist on having PEPPER'S TONIC.
Bottles 2s. 6d. and 4s. 6d. *Sold everywhere.*

LOCKYER'S SULPHUR HAIR RESTORER.

The BEST, and SAFEST, and CHEAPEST.
Large Bottles, 1s. 6d.

SULPHOLINE SOAP.

Tablets, 6d.
Clarifies the Skin.
Sold everywhere.

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BOURNEMOUTH.—THE HIGHCLIFFE HOTEL, of world-wide reputation for comfort. Full south. Magnificent Sea Views. Table d'hote.—JOHN KILNER, Proprietor.

EASTBOURNE.—BURLINGTON HOTEL, centre of Grand Parade. Redecorated, refurnished. Every comfort and luxury. Lift to all floors. All Public Rooms and large number of Private Sitting Rooms and Bedrooms, also Single Bed rooms, FACING THE SEA. Very moderate tariff. Address Manager.

THE

Pall Mall Budget

Of TO-DAY (Thursday), August 16,

CONTAINS

THE RAILWAY RACE TO EDINBURGH. (ILLUSTRATED.)

THE RED GROUSE. (ILLUSTRATED.)

THE RAILWAY KING ON THE KING OF TRAINS. (ILLUSTRATED.)

THE STRIKES IN PARIS. (ILLUSTRATED.)

TO MEET EDISON. (ILLUSTRATED.)

THE LIFE AND ADVENTURES OF A SOCIETY CLOWN. (ILLUSTRATED.)

TWO FAMOUS MURDERS. (ILLUSTRATED.)

A VOYAGE BY BALLOON. (ILLUSTRATED.)

TWO WELSH MOUNTAINS. (ILLUSTRATED.)

CARTOONS.

Off for the Scotch Shootings.
The Triumphs of the Session.

Feuilleton:
DR. PALLISER'S PATIENT. By Grant Allen. (ILLUSTRATED.)

PRICE FOURPENCE. POST FREE FOURPENCE HALFPENNY.

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AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND, TASMANIA.—ORIENT LINE FORTNIGHTLY SERVICE.
The following Steamships, belonging to the ORIENT and PACIFIC COMPANIES, leave LONDON as under, Plymouth one day later, Naples nine days later, for ALBANY, ADELAIDE, MELBOURNE, and SYDNEY direct with her Majesty's mails, taking passengers for all ports in AUSTRALASIA:—

	Tons	H.P.	
LIGURIA	4,688	4,200	Aug. 17
AUSTRAL	5,588	7,600	Aug. 31
IBERIA	4,702	4,200	Sept. 14
ORMUZ	6,116	8,500	Sept. 28
CUZCO	3,918	4,600	Oct. 12
ORIENT	5,386	6,000	Oct. 26

Loading berth, Tilbury Docks.
Cheap Single and Return Tickets.
Managers, F. GREEN and Co., 23, Fenchurch-avenue, and ANDERSON, ANDERSON, and Co., 5, Fenchurch-avenue, London, E.C. For freight or passage apply to the latter firm, or to the West-end Agents, GRINDLAY and Co., 55, Parliament-street, S.W.

LONDON TO NEW YORK, WILSON-HILL LINE.
Splendid Passenger STEAMERS, with superior accommodation amidships, sail regularly.
LUDGATE HILL, Aug. 21 | LYDIAN MONARCH, Ag. 31
1st class, £10; 2nd class, £6 6s.; 3rd class, £3 16s.—Apply to ALLAN BROTHERS and Co., 103, Leadenhall-street, E.C.

CUNARD LINE ROYAL MAIL STEAMERS.—LIVERPOOL to NEW YORK direct EVERY SATURDAY, and BOSTON EVERY TUESDAY. Fares, 12, 15, 18, and 21 guineas, and £26; return ticket 25, 30, and 35 guineas, and £45. Intermediate passage £8 8s. Steerage at low rates. Parcels will be received at the City Office three days before date of sailing.—Apply to the Cunard Steamship Company (Limited), in Liverpool, 8, Water-street; or in London, 6, St. Helen's-place, E.C., and 28, Pall-mall, S.W.

TO GERMANY,
by Ocean Mail Steamer from Southampton, homeward bound from New York.
The magnificent EXPRESS STEAMERS of the NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD, 5,500 tons, 6,000-horse power each, take passengers from Southampton for Bremen every Thursday and every Sunday. Lofty state rooms, liberal table, electric light everywhere. Fares: Through from London first saloon, £3 15.; second saloon, £1 16s. 6d.; Return tickets, £4 15s. 6d. and £3 15. respectively. All parts of Germany easily reached by rail from Bremen. Apply to Company's Agents, Keller, Wallis, and Co., 32, Cockspur-street, Charing cross, London, S.W.; or 5 and 7, Fenchurch street, E.C.; or at Southampton.

LONDON and SCOTLAND.—The CARRON LINE of first class Passenger Steamers sail from CARRON and LONDON and CONTINENTAL STEAM WHARVES, Stone, Lower East Smithfield, EVERY WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY for GRANGEMOUTH. Returning from Grangemouth Every Tuesday and Saturday. Average passage 30 hours. Trains run alongside the steamers at Grangemouth.
The best and cheapest route to the Glasgow Exhibition. First Cabin and 3rd class rail, return, including admission, 37s. Through bookings to Oban and the Highlands, and circular tours round Land's End, &c.
For particulars as to fares, berths, and all other information, apply to John Smither and Son (Limited), 65, Queen Victoria-street, E.C.; Gibbons and Company, 11, Pall-mall, S.W.; Newcomb and Son, 6, Water-lane, E.C; and Carron Company's Wharves, Lower East Smithfield, E.

COOK'S SCOTTISH TOURS.—A select personally-conducted TOUR through the TROSSACHS and HIGHLANDS, including Edinburgh, Loch Lomond, Glasgow, Oban, Staffa and Iona, Inverness, &c., August 18, and fortnightly during season. Programme for stamp, of "Excursionist," by post 3d.—THOS. COOK and Son, Ludgate-circus; 90, Gracechurch-street; 35, Piccadilly; 82, Oxford-street; 445, West Strand, &c.

CROMER
and SHERRINGHAM.
Book from KING'S CROSS (G.N.).

	A.M.	P.M.
Expresses leave	10.10	2.0
Arrive Cromer Beach	2.45	6.35

Bracing air. Splendid inland scenery.
Excellent Sea Bathing. Good Fishing. Golfing.

WRITE us to mail you our PAMPHLET describing COAL and TIMBER LANDS. Rare opportunity for a REMUNERATIVE INVESTMENT for present or future. We give New York City Banks for references.—WESTERN PROMOTING AND DEVELOPING COMPANY, Chillicothe, Ohio, U.S.A.

ANERLEY, price £430.—A great bargain. A commanding and very superior family RESIDENCE, with ten good rooms and offices; desirable situation; good gardens; 28 feet frontage. Rent, £50; ground rent, £10. Lease, 78 years. Address or call.—Mr. DUBERY, 12, Regent-street, Pall-mall.

GREAT NORTHERN CENTRAL HOSPITAL.
BUILDING FUND APPEAL.
As £20,000 only has been subscribed towards the £45,000 required for the New Buildings now in course of erection, further CONTRIBUTIONS are Urgently NEEDED, and will be thankfully received by the Bankers, Messrs. Ransom, Bouverie, and Co., 1, Pall-mall East, S.W., or by the Secretary, Mr. William T. Grant, at the Hospital, Holloway-road, N.
C. T. MURDOCH, Esq., M.P.,
Chairman of Committee.

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